Ramos hits PNP shakeup; there's more, says Gloria

STORY BELOW, COLUMN 1

Smoke and go to hell

DON'T SMOKE
SMOKE!

VATICAN CITY—"Excuse me, your eminence, but if you don't put out that cigarette, I will have to slap you with a Papal fine."

That might be the warning a lowly Vatican policeman may have to recite to

SMOKE/A19

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

IN *Saturday* SPECIAL

- For Oprah Winfrey, goodness is its own reward
- Britney Spears tops Forbes' list
- Pops Fernandez counts her blessings

WINFREY

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Saturday, June 29, 2002 ★ 70 pages / 7 sections / vol.17 / no. 201 P15 website: www.inq7.net

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

ANGUISH is writ all over the face of Vice President Teofisto Guingona hours after his fateful meeting Thursday with President Macapagal-Arroyo, who "accepted" his resignation as foreign secretary only to take it back after he insisted he did not resign. Acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable took the fall for the "mistake."

Some Palace forces want me out—Guingona

By Norman Bordadora and Juliet L. Javellana

ONLY hours after he emerged from a meeting with President Macapagal-Arroyo and declared that he was still chief of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Vice President Teofisto Guingona said there were "forces" in Malacañang working to get him out of his high-profile Cabinet post.

"I have information that there are forces working against me," Guingona said while being "grilled" during the Vice President's Night of the Manila Overseas Press Club Thursday at the Manila Hotel. But he said he had "no sufficient proof" to name them publicly.

"I'm sure you know them," he added. It was not clear if he was referring to quarters unhappy with his initial stand against the US military presence in the country or the so-called "Sikatuna office" of Roberto Romulo, the President's envoy for global competitiveness and a former foreign secretary with whom US officials are reportedly more at ease.

Deputy Speaker for the Visayas Raul Gonzalez yesterday said Guingona should study other Cabinet options after Malacañang's announcement—later retracted—that President Macapagal-Arroyo had accepted his resignation as foreign secretary.

Gonzalez said the President's "queer letter"—the release of which, acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable said later, was a mistake—would appear "as if there is an indication that (she) wants to remove" Guingona from the DFA.

But a ranking official of the ruling Lakas said the incident demonstrated that the rift between the President and Guingona was almost beyond repair—"*Abot langit* (sky-high)."

The source, who asked not to be named, said the Palace was forcing Guingona to quit the DFA because he was bent on blocking the signing of a Mutual Logistics Support Agreement with the United States.

"They are rushing the signing of the MLSA but the Vice President does not want to sign it," the source said.

Gonzalez said that "if (the Thursday confusion) is a signal from the President, then the Vice President should look at his other options."

Noting that Guingona had confirmed being offered the post of environment secretary, Gonzalez said he did not think being transferred to the environment department would be a

SOME/A19

Ramos hits PNP shakeup; Gloria vows more

By Carlito Pablo, Martin P. Marfil, Armand Nocum, Rocky Nazareno and Alcuin Papa

THE RELIEF of seven police generals for their alleged failure to stamp out illegal gambling has come under criticism from an ex-soldier, former President Fidel Ramos, who decried the absence of due process in the dismissals.

Ramos said the Philippine National Police, being a civilian agency, was covered by the rules of the Civil Service Commission "which means that due process must be observed."

"There are some good officers in that batch who were ordered relieved and their relief should have been made only after they had been called to explain lapses in their command," said Ramos, a former chief of the Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police, the forerunner of the PNP.

Only when they fail to give "a proper accounting of the operation objectives entrusted to them" can they be subjected to disciplinary action, he said.

One of the seven, Director Avelino Razon, who was relieved of the Central Visayas command, was a former Ramos aide as well as an officer in the Presidential Security Group during Ramos' term.

Already, the right-wing Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan (RAM) group said demoralization was beginning to invade the ranks of the PNP as a result of the dismissals.

RAMOS/A6

Gov't takes war to Abu Sayyaf turf

By Julie S. Alipala
PDI Mindanao Bureau
Martin P. Marfil and Carlito Pablo

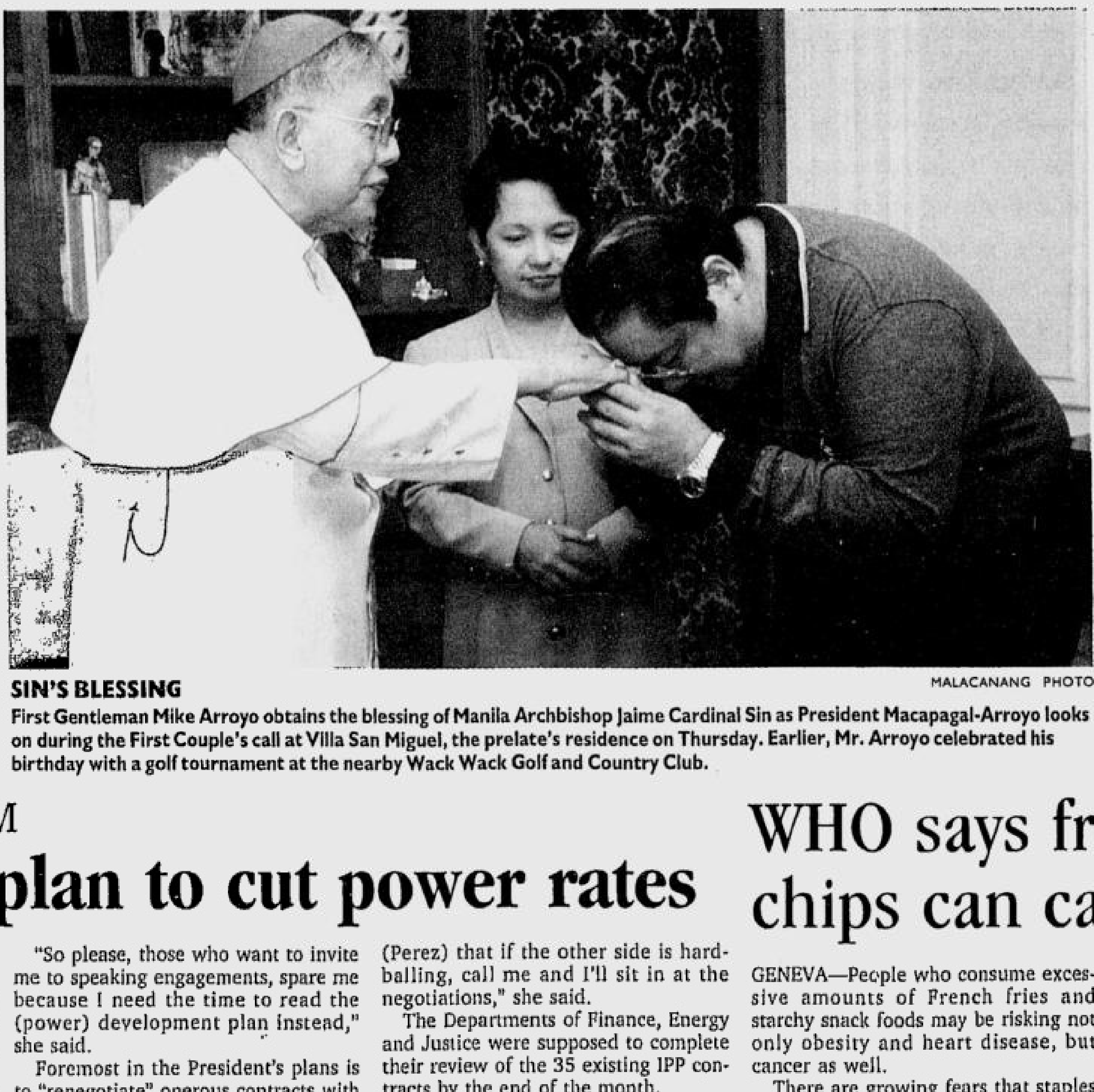
PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday announced that a major battle against the Abu Sayyaf was under way in Patikul, Sulu "right in the camp where the Abu Sayyaf was born."

The military poured in three additional Army battalions to pursue about 100 bandits believed to be led by top Abu Sayyaf leaders Khadaffy Janjalani and Radulan Sahiron.

Soldiers also overran four Abu Sayyaf camps which, the military said, had been set up recently in Patikul and might have been abandoned after fighting erupted on Thursday.

Clashes continued in Patikul yesterday as the military's Operation Daylight intensified against the Abu Sayyaf. The fighting was the continua-

GOV'T/A4


MALACANANG PHOTO

SIN'S BLESSING

First Gentleman Mike Arroyo obtains the blessing of Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin as President Macapagal-Arroyo looks on during the First Couple's call at Villa San Miguel, the prelate's residence on Thursday. Earlier, Mr. Arroyo celebrated his birthday with a golf tournament at the nearby Wack Wack Golf and Country Club.

Jueteng goes on despite crackdown

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau
and Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

BAGUIO CITY—Who should be called to account for the phenomenon of cross-border jueteng?

This is another aspect of the anti-gambling drive, which the National Police Commission has to resolve after its headline-grabbing decision to dismiss seven top police generals for allegedly failing to curb the illegal numbers game.

Cross-border jueteng refers to "mobile" jueteng operators who transact their daily business by crossing from the Ilocos and Cagayan Valley regions into Baguio, Benguet and nearby border villages.

Lawyer Edmundo Fernandez, the Napolcom director in the Cordillera, said all the provinces in the region are being plagued by this menace and a crackdown is in order.

Chief Supt. George Aliño, the Cordillera police director, was spared from the crackdown that included the relief of four police regional directors, two provincial police chiefs and a city police director.

Fernandez said he could not determine how Interior Secretary Jose Lina would address this gray area in their internal police accountability drive.

He explained that although the police campaign against jueteng was suc-

JUETENG/A6

10-POINT PROGRAM

GMA bares plan to cut power rates

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo's 10-point plan to reduce power rates is "like squeezing blood from stone," but, she said, "we've got to try."

The President yesterday unveiled her program of action before industry players who convened in Malacañang and said she would personally oversee each plan.

"So please, those who want to invite me to speaking engagements, spare me because I need the time to read the (power) development plan instead," she said.

Foremost in the President's plans is to "renegotiate" onerous contracts with independent power producers (IPP) mostly entered into by the Ramos administration.

"I told (Energy Secretary) Vince (Perez) that if the other side is hardballing, call me and I'll sit in at the negotiations," she said.

The Departments of Finance, Energy and Justice were supposed to complete their review of the 35 existing IPP contracts by the end of the month.

"We shall ensure that the consumers are only charged the true and fair cost of electric services, and only for power

GMA/A19

WHO says fries, potato chips can cause cancer

GENEVA—People who consume excessive amounts of French fries and starchy snack foods may be risking not only obesity and heart disease, but cancer as well.

There are growing fears that staples like fries and potato chips contain high levels of a potentially carcinogenic substance called acrylamide.

Scientists, after a three-day conference that ended Thursday, said the extent of the risk from acrylamide, which is known to cause cancer in animals and may also cause it in humans, is still unclear. They said more studies were also needed on how to reduce it both in the food and catering industry and in cooking methods at home.

"The experts were unanimous and

WHO/A19

Second FRONT PAGE

KAKAIBANG GIYERA NA!

FVR warns on 'new age war'

Countries backing the United States-led war on terrorism should prepare for a "new age of war" with "new and dedicated enemies," former President Fidel V.Ramos said yesterday.

This war would be characterized by more September 11-type attacks, Ramos said, with "novel weapons that create more havoc than conventional conflict."

Speaking during ceremonies marking the 40th anniversary of the Philippine Army Special Forces, which he once commanded, Ramos pointed out that the dimensions of global security had "radically" changed.

He said the world community would need not just a new security doctrine, but a global alliance for security.

The new war would not be fought on traditional battle spaces, Ramos said. "Our terrorist enemies are likely to hit (democratic) countries where they are weakest-in strategic infrastructure and population center—to achieve disproportionate effects."

RAMOS

Given events and trends since September 11, the former leader said, "it is easy to agree with those who say the world has entered a new age of war." Attackers would rely on "surprise, deception and asymmetric weapons (such as civilian airliners turned into missiles)," he added.

Ramos warned that extremist groups, though small, had a "frightening command of science and technology." Thus, he said, Special Forces units now had an "enhanced" role. "Future wars are going to be wars of mobility, of quick decisions, and lightning strikes."

On the other hand, a global democratic alliance should not merely aim to defeat terrorism, Ramos said. "It must also attend to the other side of the coin of security—the people's wellbeing. Not only must our grand coalition isolate radicals and extremists; it must help the poor to prosper."

Ramos, a West Point graduate, acknowledged the US role in the Philippine government's fight against the al-Qaeda-linked Muslim extremist Abu Sayyaf group.

In the first expansion of the American war on terrorism outside Afghanistan, a 1000-strong US contingent has been deployed for a six-month counter-terrorism training exercise with Filipino soldiers in the southern Philippines.

US assistance, particularly in surveillance technology and communications facilities, has helped Filipino troops rout most of the Abu Sayyaf guerrillas. ***AP***

'Ping' could face new raps on mansions

By Philip C. Tubeza, Michael Lim Ubac and Rocky Nazareno

SEN. Panfilo "Ping" Lacson could face additional counts in the graft case against him if it was proved he owned two mansions south of Manila but did not include them in his statement of assets and liabilities.

This according to National Bureau of Investigation Director Reynaldo Wycoco who said yesterday "the NBI was a recipient of the video pictures (of the houses). So now it's our duty to find out if the homes really belong to the senator."

Wycoco did not say who provided the NBI with the videotapes, but said it was only "prudent" the bureau investigated the allegations.

Lacson allegedly owns two mansions worth a total of P150 million in Ayala-Alabang, Muntinlupa and BF Homes Parañaque.

One is a three-story, 10-room mansion at 233 San Jose St., Ayala Alabang worth between P85 and P90 million, while the other is at 280 El Grande St, BF Homes Parañaque and is allegedly worth P60 to P65 million.

Lacson denied owning the BF Homes mansion but admitted the Alabang house was registered under Mega Star Real Estate Co., a joint venture between Lacson and some friends. Lacson said he listed this investment in his 2001 SAL.

The NBI is preparing anti-graft and perjury charges against Lacson over his alleged bank accounts in the United States that were not included in his SALs.

"If these (homes) belong to him, they can form part of the evidence against (Lacson)," Wycoco said.

"(But) at this point, we haven't reached a conclusion and we are still verifying the (allegations)," he added.

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez said yesterday Lacson could face a separate complaint for perjury if it was proved he owned the two mansions.

"If he is indeed the owner, yes," replied Perez when asked if perjury charges would be lodged against the opposition senator.

Earlier, Perez said Lacson could be facing perjury charges in connection with his alleged dollar accounts in the US.

Though the Department of Justice and its investigating arm, the NBI, have yet to verify the mansions report, Perez said the luxury homes were not listed in Lacson's 2001 Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

"As far as I know, they were not stated," he said.

The NBI said that Lacson only declared a net worth of P1.7 million in 1996 and P19 million in 2001.

Perez said the NBI was "rushing" the evaluation of the evidence submitted by the US Federal Bureau of Investigation that allegedly showed Lacson and his wife, Alice, held bank accounts in the US.

Wycoco said earlier the FBI report was admissible as evidence in court because it was provided by the US through the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty.

But Perez said yesterday the FBI report should be substantiated by "independent evidence."

Lacson had said the FBI report on his dollar accounts was "true and not true."

It was true that he had three or four accounts in the US, he admitted, but they were no longer active.

The FBI had reportedly learned that the Lacson accounts had held a combined total of $1.2 million at one point.

Lacson dismissed yesterday as mere "figments of the imagination" the reports that he had undeclared wealth, including an Ayala-Alabang mansion.

He also lashed out at the administration for its "continuous vilification campaign" against him.

In a statement, Lacson said: "I would like to clarify that I have only one house–and it is not even a mansion—and this is where I live on Kirishima St. in BF Homes Parañaque.

He said the Kirishima residence is located on a 416-square-meter lot and he and his family have lived there since 1982.

He said it had cost him P750,000 to build the house at the time and it has since gained in value to around P6-7 million.

He said the allegation he owned a mansion on El Grande St. in BF Homes was "an outright lie."

"They are trying so hard to nail me on a perjury case and for possible misdeclaration in my statement of assets and liabilities but I'm sure they will fail because I have always been truthful in declaring my net worth," Lacson said.

He explained that the Ayala-Alabang mansion actually belonged to a real estate firm in which he had an investment.

He said the house was a build-and-sell project with a construction cost of P15 million that was borrowed from Banco de Oro, while the lot had cost P18 million.

He said his investment in the real estate firm was included in his 2001 SAL.

"It is very clear that damage has been done here, not only to my reputation, but also to the business that we entered into," said Lacson, adding the controversy would make the Ayala-Alabang mansion difficult to sell at a price that would cover their loan.

DoJ wants trial to continue

JUSTICE Secretary Hernando Perez said yesterday his office would push for the trial of suspected Pentagon gang leader Faisal Marohombsar, even though the latter escaped from Camp Crame detention on June 19.

"The Department of Justice filed a motion to reinstate the arraignment of Marohombsar, who recently escaped from confinement," said Perez.

Perez said Marohombsar was arraigned on April 17 before Manila RTC Branch 18 for kidnapping with serious illegal detention, "but he asked that the arraignment be cancelled and the preliminary investigation be reopened."

On May 24, the court set aside the arraignment and granted Marohombsar's motion for the investigation to be conducted by the DOJ.

"It is obvious he acted in bad faith because while the preliminary investigation was being conducted, he escaped," said Perez, who noted that Marohombsar might have asked to have the arraignment set aside "so that he could not be tried in absentia."
Michael Lim Ubac

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NBI has 'serious doubts' about latest Nida witness

By Philip C. Tubeza

NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation officials are having "serious doubts" about their new witness in the Nida Blanca murder case.

This as investigators from the Manila police said the witness was a "police character."

An NBI source said Omar Manonggoring has been in the agency's custody for two months but the information he offered had not proven to be true.

"His statements have undergone a thorough verification and counter-checking. (As to the results), we have doubts," the source, an investigator, said.

The source said a police officer introduced Manonggoring to the NBI because the latter "had overheard or knew" about the planning of Blanca's murder.

"Of course, we had to investigate what he was saying," the source said.

But after a two-month investigation, Manonggoring's allegations apparently did not pan out, the source added.

Manonggoring made the news recently after Blanca's daughter, Kaye Torres, complained to the NBI that the witness was calling her up and broadly asking for money.

"We will do something if the calls are made again," NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco said yesterday.

"*Dinibdiban na nga namin pero tumawag pa rin* (We punched him in the chest but he still made those calls)," the source said.

Wycoco said Manonggoring made four calls to Torres who, he added, was not interested in pursuing charges against the witness.

All this did not come as a surprise to many Western Police District investigators, particularly those in the District Drug Enforcement Unit.

They had many nasty things to say about Manonggoring, particularly his alleged involvement in illegal drugs.

"He only operates in Manila. I don't know how he could have gone to San Juan. *Baka mawala pa siya 'run* (He might get lost there)," one policeman said.

The WPD had filed drug charges against Manonggoring before the Manila Regional Trial Court in 2000 but this was dismissed after a police chemist failed to attend a hearing.

Manonggoring filed counter-charges against the DDEG policemen, alleging that he had been framed.

Manonggoring allegedly was an informant for many policemen in Manila's different stations.

US pledges $10M to fight child labor

By Blanche S. Rivera

A $10-million pledge from the United States government will boost the Philippines' anti-child labor program, by hopefully delivering some two million Filipino children found to be working under hazardous conditions.

US Deputy Undersecretary for Labor Thomas Moorhead said yesterday the Philippines was the first country to receive this aid.

Moorhead spoke at the launch yesterday of the Department of Labor and Employment's "time-bound" program to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.

To be administered by the International Labor Organization (ILO), the financial assistance will come in two tranches. The first $5 million will finance the ILO's child labor action programs and education initiatives in the country this year.

According to a survey of the National Statistics Office, one out of every six children aged five to 17 in the country is working. Of the total number, 34 percent have dropped out of school because of their work.

The second $5 million will be coursed through a bidding among non-government organizations whose proposals on how to free child workers from dangerous circumstances will be chosen by the ILO.

Around 2.4 million Filipino working children are exposed to chemical, physical and biological hazards, with 942,000 suffering injuries while at work, the NSO survey revealed.

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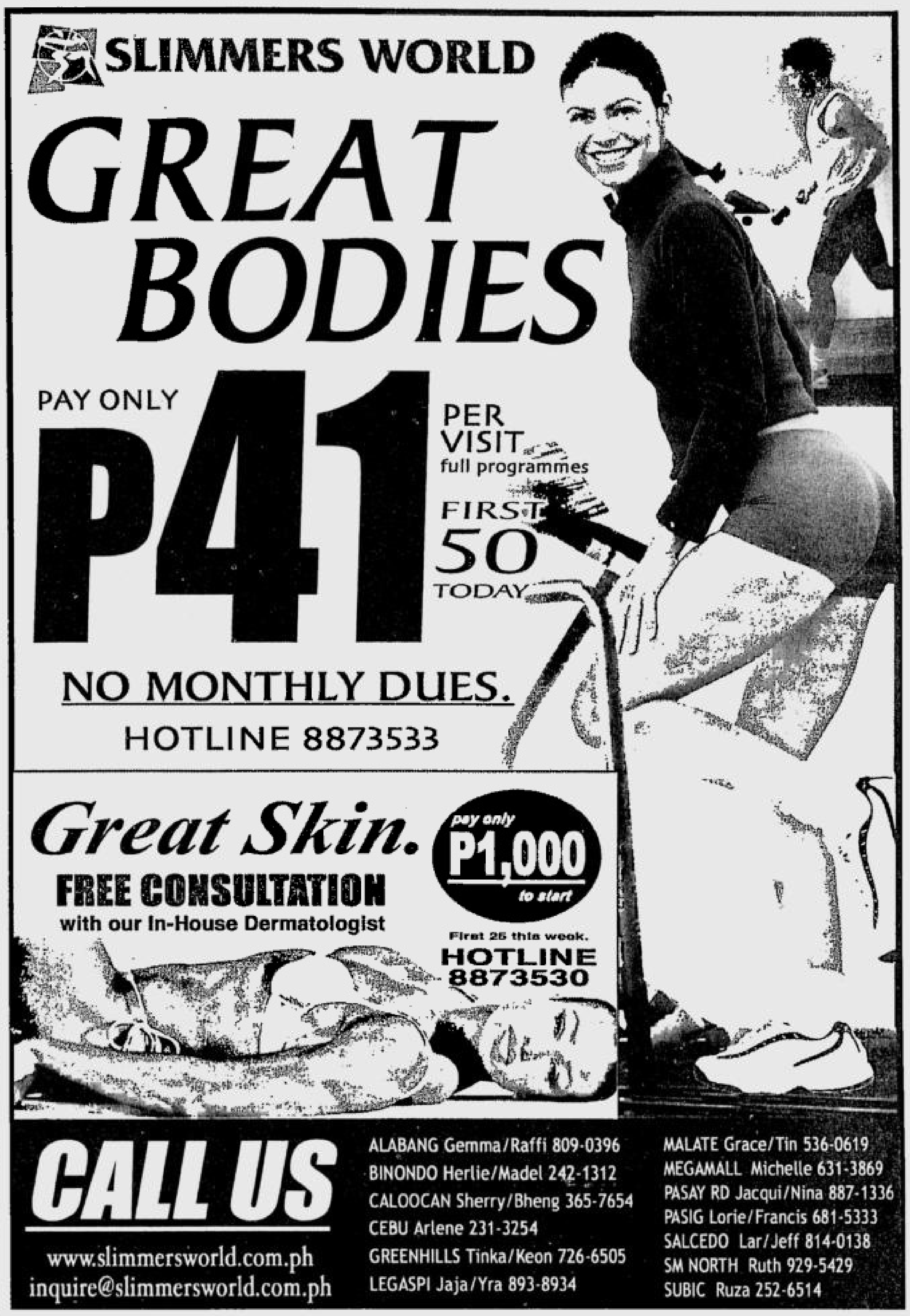
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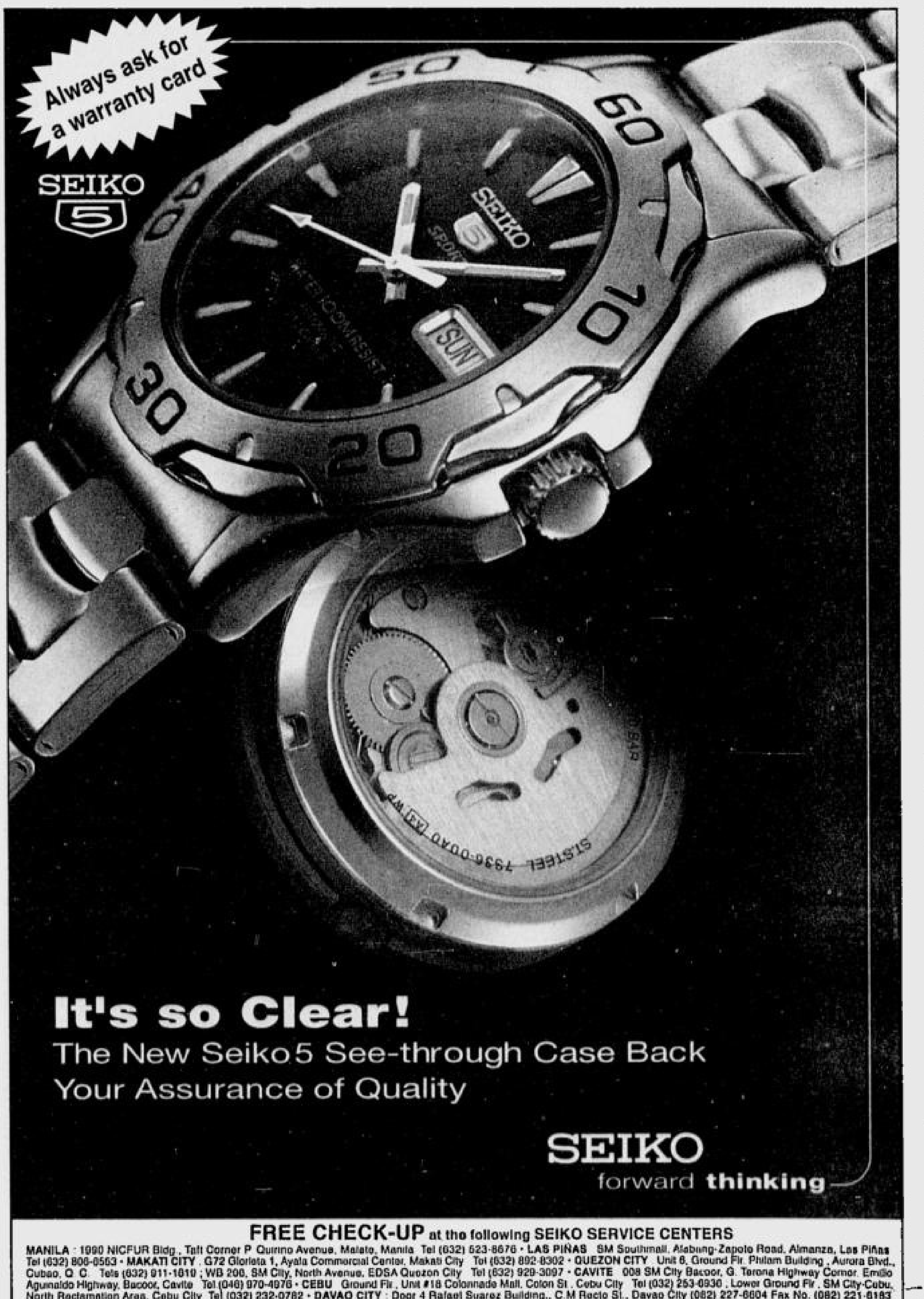
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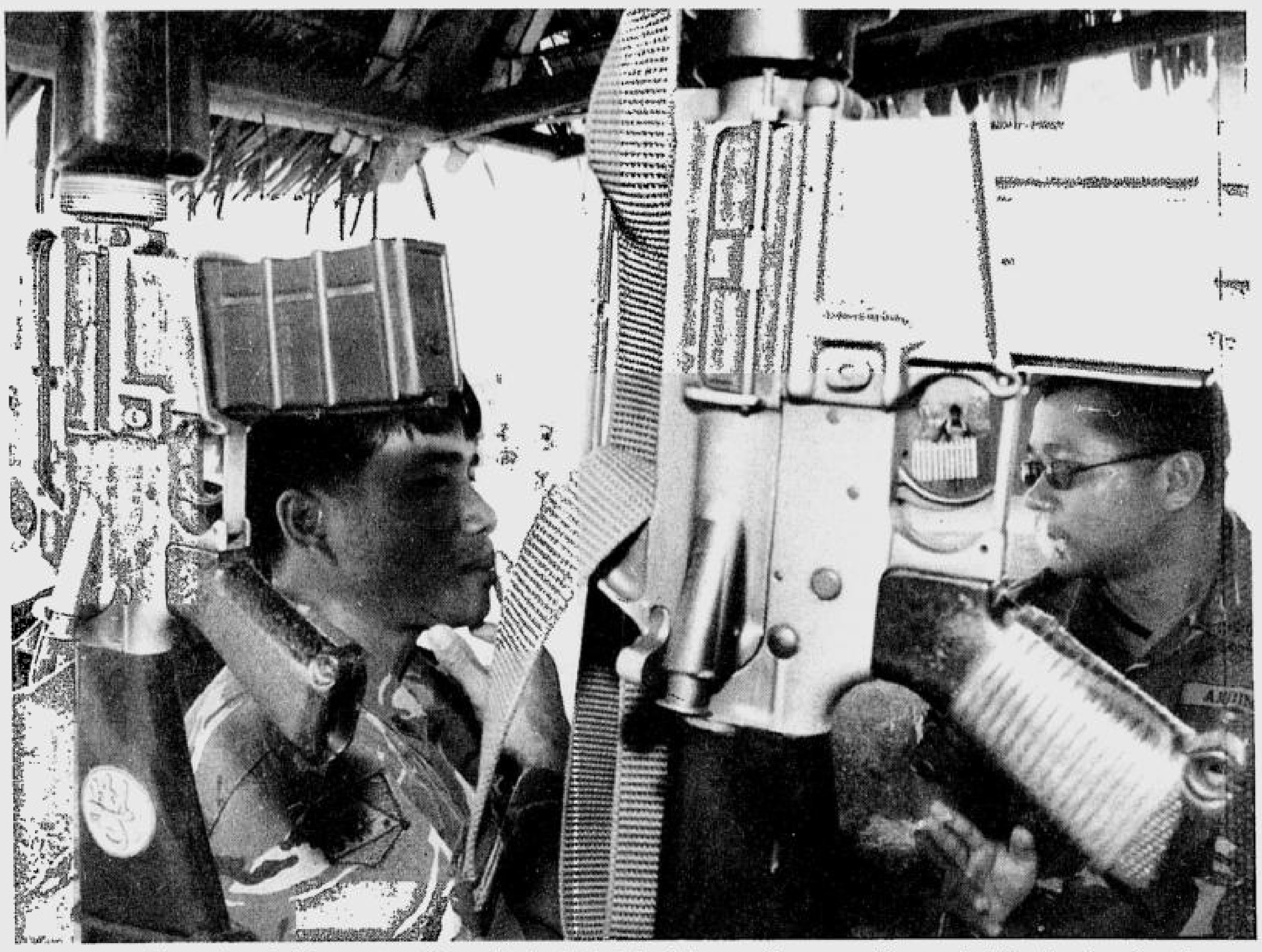
Gov't takes war to Abu Sayyaf turf

From page A1



TWO Army soldiers take a brief rest at a military checkpoint in Jolo, Sulu, as military operations against the Abu Sayyaf continue Friday in Luuk, Sulu.

DENNIS SABANGAN

tion of Thursday's clash on Mt. Sinumaan that resulted in the death of a bemedalled Scout Ranger officer.

The military used howitzers and helicopter gunships to bombard the mountain the entire day on Thursday.

Residents living near the clash site fled to Jolo town proper to avoid being caught in the crossfire. Some had to walk 15 km and rely on their relatives for their necessities. The Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council of Sulu had yet to send relief assistance to the displaced families pending approval of Gov. Yusop Jikiri, who was in Sudan to attend a meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

As of press time, government authorities could not provide the number of evacuees.

Jolo residents confirmed that the search for the bandits was so intense that they had to contend with the roaring sound of planes and helicopters for hours.

A proud President Macapagal-Arroyo prefaced her major policy speech on utility reform yesterday with a brief statement that troops were going after Janjalani and Sahiron, alias Commander Putol.

"We are now having a major battle in Patikul, Sulu right in the camp where the Abu Sayyaf group was born way back in 1995," Ms Macapagal said.

"This is the lair of Hapilon and I understand Khadaffy Janjalani," she said.

"Let's wish our soldiers well," she said. "The fighting is still going on and would probably go on for two more days . . . Our forces will relentlessly hunt down these criminals until they are all accounted for."

Southern Command chief Maj. Gen. Ernesto Carolina said he received a call from the President yesterday morning and she ordered no letup in military operations.

"Get me Janjalani and Robot and the others," he quoted the President as saying.

Exit points

The Army's 4th, 6th and 14th infantry battalions were deployed yesterday to Patikul in a drenching rain to back up the 2nd Scout Ranger Battalion.

The area has thick vegetation and offers cover and "a lot of high ground and exit points" where rebels can escape, Agence France Presse quoted a military source as saying.

Carolina said there were simultaneous operations against the Abu Sayyaf in three locations to keep them from linking up.

He said soldiers overran the bandits' camp in Barangay Tanum in Kabuntakan, and in sitios Paylun, Kantakang and Luba Hill in Darayan village.

"The camp . . . in Tanum has five bunkers and a mess hall, which can accommodate around 50 persons," he said.

Carolina said Sahiron's group used the camps as training areas and to hide from the government.

Abu casualties

Government troops failed to recover a single body but Carolina said the Abu Sayyaf had "casualties based on the trail of blood that our troops are now using to detect their exact location."

"We believe the Abu Sayyaf group is still within the vicinity of these areas, of these camps. We will continue with the operation, employing all available assets of the military including close air support and field artillery units," said Lt. Col. Danilo Servando, chief of the AFP public information office.

The Sulu-based bandits had ambushed a team of Scout Rangers patrolling Mt. Sinumaan on Thursday.

1Lt. Jessie James Apura, commanding officer of the 9th Scout Ranger Company (not 9th Special Forces Company as earlier reported) was killed while six of his men were injured.

In San Narciso, Zambales, the President told graduating cadets of the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy that she had ordered the military to run after the bandits responsible for Apura's death.

"The life of another young and fine military officer has been sacrificed," the President said.

The slain officer's remains lies in state in the family residence in Sta. Mateo, Rizal. Carolina said the President would give Apura a Combat Casualty Award.

M/Sgt. Jenny Apura, the father of the slain officer, said he was so angry over his son's death that he now regards Mindanao as the "Land of Corpses."

"I have been in Mindanao. I've been in the military service for 30 years, but the problem here remains the same. So many people are killed, how could you call it a land of promise?" he asked.

The elder Apura said he last talked with his son on Friday last week. His son was still in Sibuco in Zamboanga del Norte at the time.

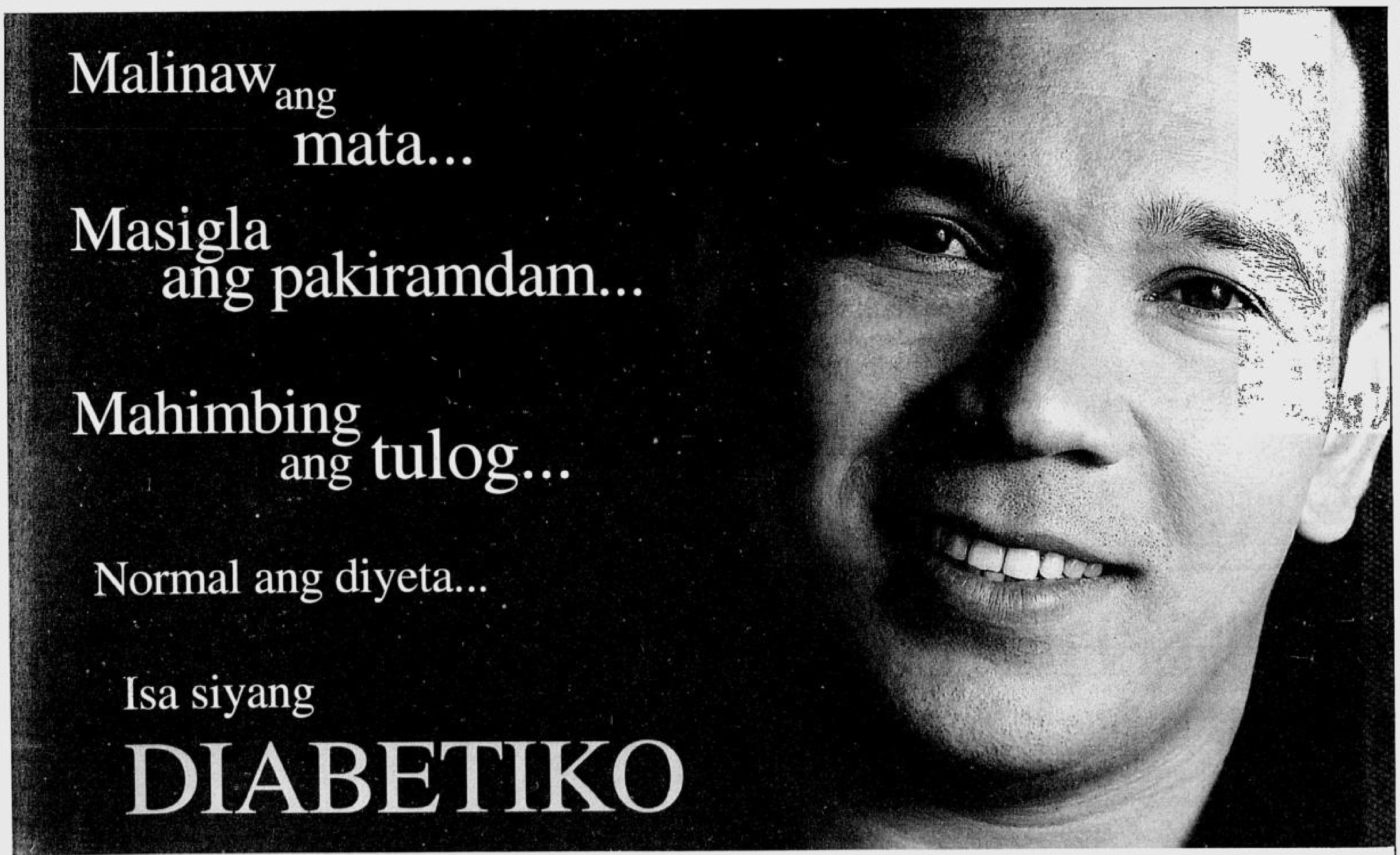
Apura said his son called to inform him that their mission in Zamboanga was over and that he was on his way to Sulu for another operation against the bandit group.

He said his son reminded him to attend to his lot in Iloilo, which he secured from a loan.

"You and Mommy should now build a house there," the young Apura had said.

On Tuesday, the elder Apura tried to call his son but was told that he was already in Sulu.

On Thursday, he received a call informing him that his son was killed by the Abu Sayyaf. ***With reports from Noralyn Mustafa PDI Mindanao Bureau, Cesar Villa PDI Central Luzon Desk and AP***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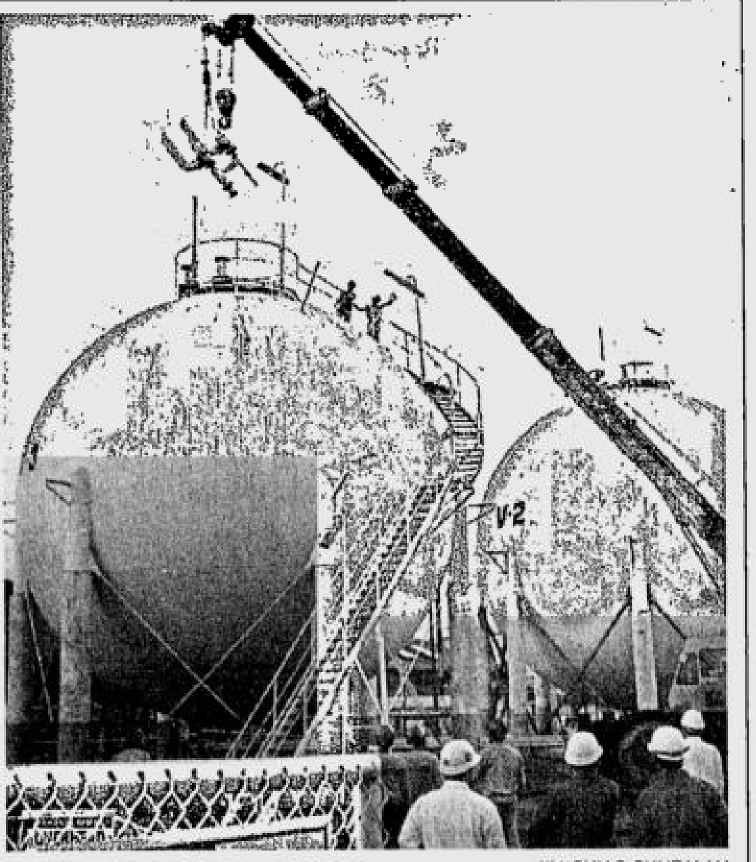

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

PANDACAN PROJECT

ENERGY Secretary Vince Perez and Pilipinas Shell officials (foreground) watch the dismantling of a huge gas tank at the Pandacan oil depot in preparation for the construction of a two-hectare buffer zone between the depot and surrounding communities. See related story on p. A26.

Militants hit 'railroading' of Lumbao probe

By Michael Lim Ubac

A MILITANT group took up the cudgels yesterday for a top supporter of ousted President Joseph Estrada as it accused the Department of Justice of railroading the reinvestigation into rebellion charges filed against Ronald Lumbao.

Lawyer Jose V. Bautista, counsel for Sanlakas, told reporters he will ask the DoJ to reconsider its June 27 decision which reiterated its decision to indict Lumbao, chair of the pro-Estrada People's Movement Against Poverty.

"The preliminary investigation of the rebellion case against Lumbao can only be described as a gross and blatant railroading by a politically fanatical investigating prosecutor from the DoJ," Bautista said.

Bautista and Sanlakas spokesperson Wilson Fortaleza said the DoJ resolution wrongly interpreted the law on rebellion (Art. 134 of the Revised Penal Code).

"There is no question the present dispensation despises Ronald Lumbao and gloats at the fact that he is now behind bars for a clearly political offense," said Bautista.

"The bottom line is the incident of May 1, 2001 was not—by any stretch of legal imagination—a rebellion as defined in our statute books. If that incident is treated by the DoJ as a rebellion, then that agency of the state has turned into nothing less than a political persecutor," Bautista said.

On Wednesday, the DoJ cleared all legal obstacles in the prosecution of Lumbao in connection with the bloody May 1 siege of Malacañang by Estrada supporters.

In a resolution, the justice department affirmed its decision recommending the filing of rebellion charges for violation of Art. 134 of the Revised Penal Code against Lumbao.

In reiterating his resolution on Oct. 8, 2001, State Prosecutor Emmanuel Velasco said that "what the law prohibits and punishes is not the freedom of the people to speak," but "the utilization of violent means in order to overthrow our duly constituted government or deprive the Chief Executive or the Legislature of any of their powers or prerogatives."

The DoJ ruled the march toward Malacañang by supporters of Estrada was a "rebellion, plain and simple."

The DoJ resolution paved the way for the continuation of Lumbao's trial at the Manila Regional Trial Court.

The DoJ conducted a reinvestigation of the case on orders of Judge Teresa P. Soriaso.

Soriaso said on March 22 that a reinvestigation was needed to allow Lumbao to controvert evidence presented earlier before the DoJ panel.

Lumbao had failed to attend the DoJ hearings because he was in hiding at the time.

Lumbao was arrested on April 25 in an apartment owned by his common-law wife in Novaliches, Quezon City. This allowed the DoJ to reinvestigate the case.

In a 19-page resolution, the DoJ said Lumbao denied that he had agitated the crowd gathered at the Edsa shrine to attack the Palace.

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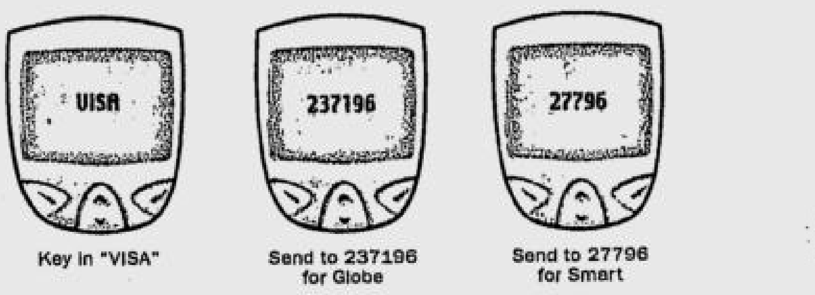

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Ramos hits PNP shakeup

From page A1

Undeterred, President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday warned that last Wednesday's sackings were a "mere dress rehearsal" for further dismissals in the national police force if other law enforcers failed to deal with the far more serious challenge of kidnapping-for-ransom and illegal drugs.

The President for the first time expressed support for the National Police Commission's decision to dismiss seven top police generals for failing to eliminate illegal gambling in their jurisdictions.

Ms Macapagal said the "major revamp" now going on in the Philippine National Police was "the result of a very strict interpretation of command responsibility on the issue of illegal gambling."

She said the sacking of the seven officials was a rehearsal for "the bigger challenge of applying the rule of command responsibility for kidnapping and illegal drugs."

She said these two criminal activities were "more challenging issues" than jueteng, or the illegal numbers game.

The President spoke on the PNP revamp early yesterday at the commencement exercises of the Philippine Merchant Academy in San Narciso, Zambales.

But just to show how preoccupied she was with the subject, she repeated her statements later that day in Malacañang before going into a major policy speech on power rates.

The seven dismissed officers were reportedly summoned to the Palace on Thursday night where they and Interior Secretary Jose Lina were believed to have met with the President.

PNP demoralization

The ranks were demoralized because they were confused about the questionable standards and procedures followed by Lina, said RAM spokesperson, retired Col. Reynaldo Samaco.

"If the police officials were really at fault, they should have been investigated and it should have been done within the department and not brought out in the media," Samaco said.

And if the generals were really in cahoots with the jueteng operators, they should have been charged and then dismissed, he added.

"In our view, these people (who were sacked) like Director Avelino Razon and Deputy Director General Edgar Aglipay had been performing well," said Samaco.

He blamed "plain and simple politics" for the move, suggesting that "some people are probably trying to position themselves by making a name for themselves".

Breakdown of morale

Former President Ramos said that his comments should not be viewed as interfering with the prerogatives and authority of Lina.

"The primary responsibility of the PNP is to maintain peace and order throughout the country and this is the reason why it is important for the government to ensure that there is no breakdown in the morale of its policemen," Ramos said.

He said the interior department should also use its influence and moral suasion to enlist the cooperation of the civilian authorities in the local governments like the governors, congressmen, mayors and barangay officials to help in the drive against illegal gambling.

Church backing

Lina, however, received strong backing from the influential Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines which called his anti-jueteng campaign "laudable."

But the CBCP said the government should not stop there, and should proceed with the prosecution and arrest of the "generals and lords" of the jueteng underworld.

"The government needs to go after the big fish and their protectors," CBCP president Orlando Quevedo said in a statement.

CBCP spokesperson Msgr. Hernando Coronel said the CBCP was keeping close watch over the Lina campaign.

"At first we had our doubts about whether this was a serious campaign or just a slogan," he said.

Coronel said they became convinced that the DILG was serious after the relief of the seven police officials, some of whom were known to be close to the President herself.

Coronel asked the Catholic faithful all over the country to help the DILG in its campaign against jueteng.

He said the CBCP Episcopal Commission on the Laity and Church lay organizations have been active participants in the DILG's anti-gambling summits in the past.

"This vision of a community without the menace of gambling in its midst is a challenge our lay leaders have accepted," he said.

Criminal liability

In Cebu City, Ombudsman Aniano Desierto yesterday created a panel to look into the possible criminal liability of the seven dimissed police officials.

Lawyer Orlando Casimiro, the deputy ombudsman for the military, will determine if there was basis to place the police officers under criminal investigation.

A panel was created to evaluate the findings of the Napolcom and its basis for dismissing the seven.

Besides Razon and Aglipay, the others were Chief Supt. Reynaldo Berroya, police chief for Central Luzon; Director Domingo Reyes, Southern Tagalog chief; Supt. Nicolas Pasinos, Western Police District police chief; Senior Supt. Leonilo dela Cruz, Laguna police chief; and Senior Supt. Jose Antonio Salvacion, Cebu police chief.

Investigators were given 10 days to come up with an evaluation report after which the formal investigation would follow.

Aglipay, the dismissed chief of the National Capital Region Police Office, yesterday said he would continue discharging his functions until a replacement for him was named.

In a press conference, Aglipay said he had filed a motion for reconsideration with the Napolcom regarding his relief.

"I am hoping that the Napolcom will give it the proper evaluation so that I could also clear my name as soon as possible," he said.

Aglipay said he was ready to relinquish his post and reiterated that he was not remiss in his duties and was "not guilty of any wrongdoing."

He said that security preparations for the coming barangay elections, the President's State of the Nation address and the visit of Pope John Paul II to the country next year have been put in place and would not be affected by his dismissal.

"All that is needed is the implementation. My relief won't affect the security preparations," Aglipay said.

With respect to the barangay elections to be held in two weeks, Aglipay said that he would be meeting with officials of the PNP and the Armed Forces of the Philippines today in Camp Aguinaldo to finalize security preparations.

Even if he had been relieved, he would still help with the security preparations for the three events, he said.

Aglipay said he has not talked to the President regarding the issue of his relief, adding that he would use the channels of command in appealing his case. ***With a report from Jolene R. Bulambot, PDI Visayas Bureau***

Jueteng goes on despite crackdown

From page A1

ceeding in the Cordilleras, the authorities have not been able to make any "permanent headway" because collectors operate outside established boundaries.

Jueteng operations have been concentrated in Baguio and nearby provinces like Benguet and Abra.

Pockets of organized jueteng operations have penetrated the border villages of Mt. Province and Ifugao. The bulk of these gambling activities have been taken over by local syndicates.

Fernandez said jueteng operations in the region generate only P1 million in revenues every month, largely because of the slowdown of mining activities here.

But in the home province of President Macapagal-Arroyo, the illegal numbers game goes on undisturbed by the government's latest bid to curb it.

On Wednesday when Lina announced the dismissals, bets were placed and draws were held in the city of San Fernando as elsewhere in Pampanga.

On Thursday, when Lina followed up the dismissals with warnings that "more heads will roll," the jueteng players and propagators hardly missed a beat.

On Friday, about 5,000 collectors of suspected jueteng financier Melchor Caluag still prowled the street to collect bets for the "sweepstakes of the *masa.*"

"It's all for show," one bettor said of Lina's drive.

Many collectors depend on the winnings to shore up their limited business capital.

"Ngo-Ngo (Caluag) has received no orders from the police to stop the game," said a collector as he took the bets in the old public market.

Nobody seems to care about concealing the jueteng operations.

Records show that police have conducted close to 1,500 raids against jueteng since July 2001 when Chief Supt. Reynaldo Berroya became Central Luzon police director.

Berroya was among the seven officials who were dismissed.

But the raids were not enough to stop jueteng, said Berroya. He said "comprehensive and long-term initiatives" such as offering a substitute means of livelihood could wean collectors away from the illegal numbers game.

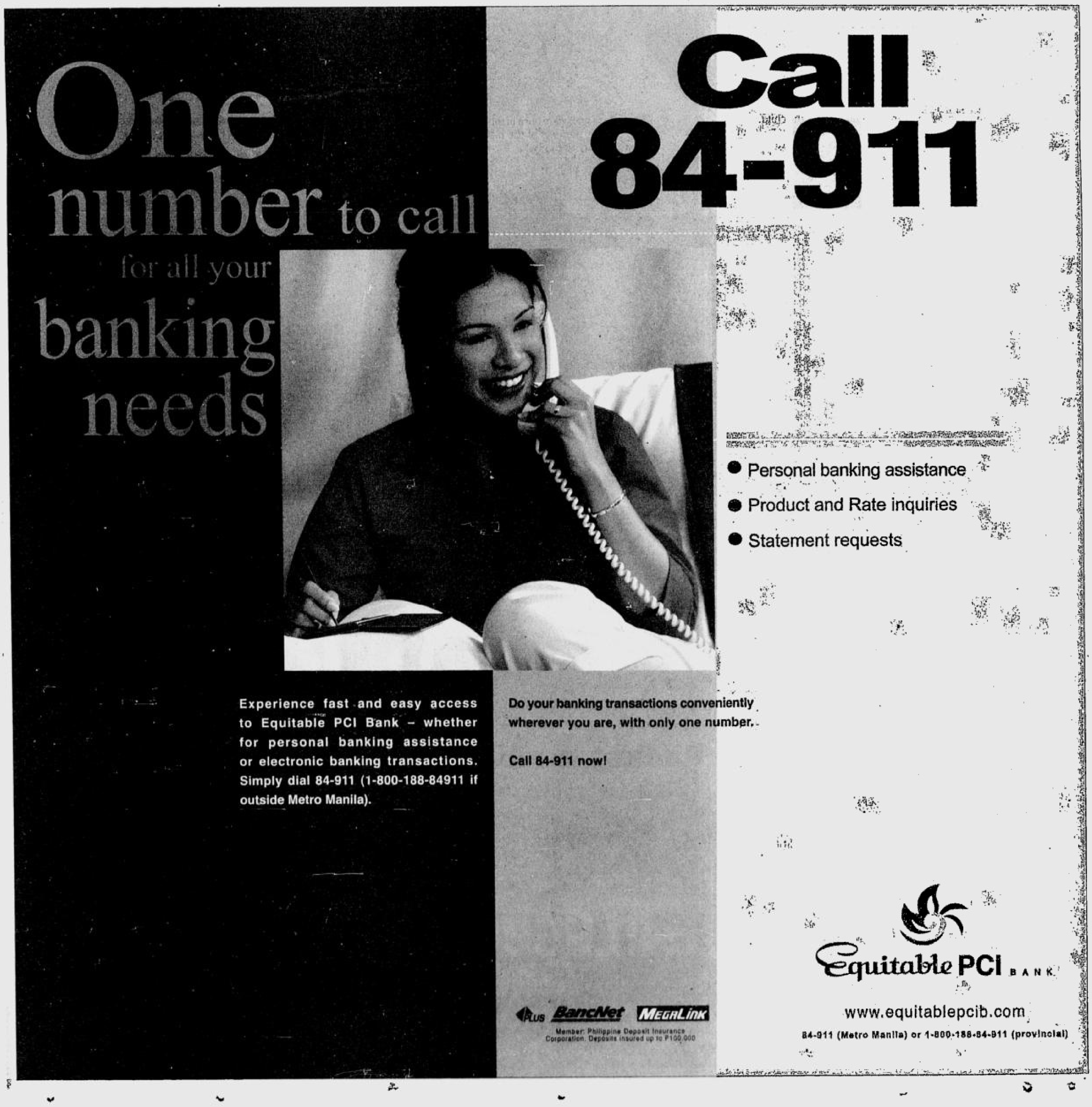
But jueteng is far from being largely an issue of livelihood. As Catholic priests in the province have noted, gambling is a problem that welds politics and economics together.

They have confirmed receiving reports that jueteng money also serves as funding for elections. Local officials seek to collect their share of jueteng protection money in order to build up their election coffers.

Neither the clergy nor the police see a solution in sight.

Legalize it? The idea elicits hoots of laughter.

"Ask the congressmen and the senators," they said.



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LAUNDRY IN THE TIME OF WAR DENNIS SABANGAN

FARMER Habil Saibuddin carries his twin sons Darwin (left) and Jerwin on their way to wash their clothes in Patikul, Sulu, site of the fierce firefight between Army Scout Rangers and about 100 remnants of the Abu Sayyaf terrorist group on Thursday in which 1Lt. Jessie James Apura was killed and six Rangers were wounded. Yesterday the military took over four abandoned Abu Sayyaf camps in the area. See page 1 story.

Bishop laments youth's alienation from Church

By Armand N. Nocum

THE FILIPINO youth who gladdened the heart of a robust Pope John Paul II o.. his last visit here in 1995 have changed greatly, especially in their view of the Catholic faith.

The change—along with wars around the world and sex scandals involving priests—are among the crosses the now sickly Holy Father has had to bear, according to Manila Auxiliary Bishop Socrates Villegas.

In a homily yesterday during a Pope's Day Mass, Villegas said, "The Pope is suffering. His suffering inspires us. His suffering saves us."

The Mass, held at the Manila Cathedral in Intramuros, was celebrated by Archbishop Antonio Franco, Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines. Among those in attendance were President Macapagal-Arroyo, Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, Senate President Franklin Drilon and Dodie Limcaoco, presidential adviser on ecclesiastical and media concerns.

Villegas is executive secretary of the Church body making preparations for the 4th World Meeting of Families set in January next year. The Pope is expected to attend the conference.

In his homily, Villegas pointed out Filipino youth have grown more detached from the Church within the same period of time that the Pope has grown much weaker—since he was here seven years ago for World Youth Day celebrations.

"The arms that once twirled a cane to the rhythm and beat of a youthful tune at the Luneta now tremble and jiggle from the effects of a dreadful disease," Villegas said. "And now, the young people that he loves are slipping away from him. Oh what pain."

Villegas recalled how Pope John Paul II sang for, and with, the Filipino youth. "Now," he said, "they are singing different tunes—songs of instant pleasure and instant success. Gone are the days of sacrifice, of seeking ways to be holy."

Instead of rosaries, Villegas said, the young people prefer to carry mobile phones. "They can't leave home without these phones. They complain that praying the rosary takes too much time, but they spend hours on the phone with their friends."

The sex scandals that have rocked the Catholic Church in the United States and elsewhere in the world were another source of anguish for the Pope, Villegas said.

"Some prelates' misdemeanors have cast doubts on the pastoral work worldwide. Even bishops' interaction with the youth is regarded with suspicion," Villegas said with emotion. "The wound has cut through (the Pope's) heart, and the heart of the Church."

Austria; 41

ENGINEER Fedelino Austria, division chief of Project Management Services of the Department of Transportation and Communications died on June 27 of cardiac arrest at St. Luke's Hospital. He was 41.

He is survived by his wife Marivic, daughters Elaine Ann, Fedele, Adrianne and Frances, sisters Fe Elenita, Ida Marco and Felina, and brothers Felino Jr., Chito and Zardo.

His remains lie at the Hope Chapel, Don Bosco Chapels, in Makati. The funeral will be on June 30 at 4 p.m. at the Loyola Memorial Park in Marikina where his remains will be cremated.

'Ghost voters' use candidate's address

A TELEVISION journalist who is a candidate in the barangay elections has asked the Commission on Elections to purge the voters' list in her Pasig district—mainly because 17 voters unknown to her are listed under her address.

The petitioner is Thelma Dumpit-Murillo, news anchor of RMN News Manila and reelectionist candidate for kagawad in Barangay Kapitolyo, Pasig City.

Murillo asked the Comelec in a petition filed on Tuesday to delete 17 names from the voters' list of precinct 646A on the ground that they are fictitious. She also asked the election body to investigate how the "ghost voters" managed to register using her address.

Through lawyer Romulo B. Macalintal, Murillo told the Comelec that her address and apartment units at 11 Isabel St., Barangay Kapitolyo, were used as addresses for the 17 fictitious voters.

Murillo said that as owner of the apartments, she knew that "no such persons with such names ever lived or are presently residing in any of our apartment units."

Macalintal said that "a favorable resolution of Murillo's petition may serve as an eye-opener for the Comelec to undertake immediate and appropriate measure to ensure a clean and updated voters' database."

"It is very imperative that a systematic verification system and tamper-proof and counterfeit-resistant identification cards for voters be immediately distributed by the Comelec to prevent the anomaly of fictitious and illegal registrants in the list of voters," Macalintal said.

Bill to benefit illegitimate kids backed

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE—Parents of illegitimate children could soon heave a sigh of relief.

National Statistics Office Administrator Carmelita Ericta said on Thursday that her office has endorsed to Congress two bills that address the problem of registering illegitimate children.

At a press forum ending the three-day First National Workshop on Civil Registration here, Ericta said one of the bills sought to allow an illegitimate child to use the surname of the father; the other to allow the registration of children born to underage parents.

Ericta said about 15 percent of Filipino children were unregistered because of existing laws.

Under the Family Code, an illegitimate child cannot use the surname of his or her father even if the father acknowledges the child.

Also under the code, underage parents have to adopt their own child when they come of legal age and are eligible for marriage.

Ericta also announced the 64 percent completion of the NSO's civil registry system information technology project, which involves the computerization of 66 million birth documents.

"Electronic conversion of birth documents for the years 1970 until 1980 have been prioritized," she said, "because those who were born in those years represent portions of the labor force most likely to apply for travel, board exams and overseas jobs."—*Ansbert Joaquin, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

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Beyond repair

EDITORIAL

THE MACAPAGAL administration the other day averted a Cabinet crisis by the skin of its teeth. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr. had a showdown after Malacañang released a letter to the press, signed by the President, thanking Guingona for stepping down as foreign secretary.

Since Guingona did not officially hand in a resignation, there was nothing for the President to thank him. Guingona was furious. He stonewalled and told the press he had not resigned and was not resigning.

An impasse worse than that between the administration allies in the Senate and opposition senators erupted, and Malacañang pressed the panic button. Guingona scurried to the Palace for an emergency meeting, the result of which was that the offending letter was withdrawn and Ms Macapagal assured Guingona that he stays as foreign secretary. For how long, we don't know. What's obvious is that the President executed a humiliating somersault in quick time—within hours of the release of the letter.

An untimely Cabinet crisis was averted but many questions remain unanswered. The narrow escape of the government from self-destruction underlines a mortal weakness of the Macapagal administration—its lack of cohesion—showing it in disarray. The Macapagal-Guingona rift has enough explosive content to blow up the administration, without an assist from the opposition.

Obviously, as indicated by the letter, there was an understanding between the President and Guingona that he would resign within a two-month period to make way for a Cabinet revamp involving other Cabinet members, with the grace period serving as a mechanism to save face.

For reasons still not determined, someone in the Palace was in a hurry to push Guingona out of the Cabinet and had the letter released, causing extreme embarrassment to Guingona. Acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable Jr. did a good job as a shock absorber by taking responsibility for the release of the letter. He said the letter was meant to be destroyed.

His explanation is less than convincing, but the sight of the two highest officials of the land at loggerheads and the presidential somersault were enough to trigger a flood of queries from ambassadors of puzzled governments seeking clarification about the status of the foreign secretary. The public exhibition of ineptness and conflict at the highest level of government further damaged the prestige of the country abroad in the eyes of the international community.

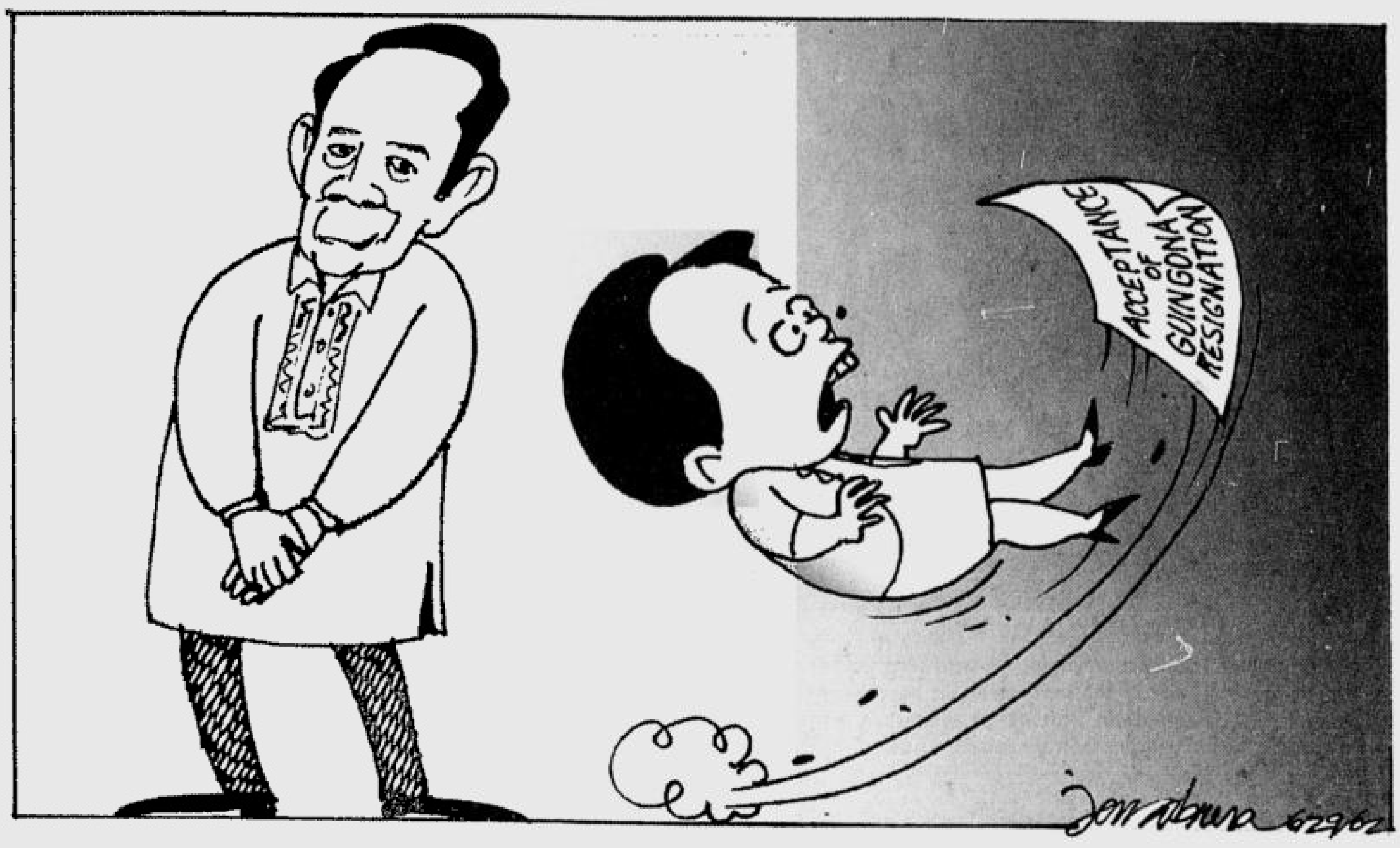
The uneasy relationship between the President and the Vice President has its roots in their deep differences over the American military presence in the country, brought about by the joint Philippine-American military exercises. The tensions generated by the conflicting interpretations of the Visiting Forces Agreement were further inflamed by differences over the scope of the exercises in so far as they involved US Special Forces in the Philippine military campaign against the Abu Sayyaf. Ms Macapagal incorporated Guingona's objections in the terms of reference of the exercises, papering over their differences.

In a way, the death of the Abu Sayyaf leader, Abu Sabaya, vindicated Ms Macapagal's policy of American involvement in the anti-terrorist campaign. Guingona also considered the success in the campaign against the Abu Sayyaf as a vindication of his own restrictions inserted in the terms of reference.

This did not, however, eliminate another sensitive issue: the proposed Mutual Logistics Support Agreement, which seeks to allow the United States to install in the country facilities to support its military action related to the US-led war on international terrorism. With this issue moving up front as the Balikatan exercises draw to a close, the relations between the President and her foreign secretary can only be more tenuous.

What the President and Guingona did in their patch-up meeting the other night was just to declare a truce, allowing Guingona time to prepare for a graceful exit. The President had to suffer the embarrassment of retracting her letter. This so because Guingona has a political constituency and the President cannot risk alienating it by unceremoniously driving him out of the Cabinet.

The events of Thursday clearly tell us that the Macapagal-Guingona alliance is beyond repair. Its rupture is bound to have repercussions on the stability of the administration.



The letter and the spirit of the law

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

WHEN I was still a member of the Supreme Court some years ago, a very interesting case was raffled to me. It involved the interpretation of Article 1088 of the Civil Code providing that if any of the co-owners of an undivided piece of land should sell his share, any of the other co-owners could redeem the portion sold within 30 days from the time they are given written notice of the sale by the vendor.

Five brothers and sisters inherited in equal undivided shares a parcel of land from their deceased parents. Two of them sold their separate shares to the same buyers, the first in 1963 and the second in 1964. The buyers occupied and enclosed two-fifths of the land, representing the area sold to them, and in 1975 their son, with their consent, built a semi-concrete house on it.

In 1976, another co-heir filed suit to redeem the parts sold to the defendants. The trial court dismissed the case on the ground that the right of redemption had prescribed, not having been exercised within 30 days from notice of the sales in 1963 and 1964. Although the notice was not in writing, the judge held that *actual* notice satisfied the requirements of the law. He ruled that such actual notice could not be denied because the co-heirs and the buyers, who were close friends, lived on the same lot. This measured only 604 square meters, including the portion sold to the defendants.

The court held that it was impossible for the plaintiff not to know that the area occupied by the buyers had been purchased by them from the other co-heirs. Especially significant was the erection by the buyers of a semi-concrete house on the area occupied by them without objection from any of the siblings. The only issue that had to be resolved was the interpretation of Article 1088, which, interestingly enough, was invoked by both the plaintiff and the defendants.

In reversing the trial court, the appellate court held that the notice required by the law should be written; actual notice should not suffice as a substitute. It is apparent, it declared, that the legislature "deliberately adopted a particular mode of giving notice, and that mode must be exclusive."

The vendees filed a petition for review with the Supreme Court, then headed by Chief Justice Claudio Teehankee. They were sustained unanimously except for two justices who were on official leave. I recall that my colleagues readily approved my draft decision although it was a deviation from the strict mandate of the law.

In that case of Alonzo v. Intermediate Appellate Court, 150 SCRA 159, I began my *ponencia* as follows:

"The question is often asked, in serious inquiry or in curious conjecture, whether we are a court of law or a court of justice. Do we apply the law even if it is unjust or do we administer justice even against the law? Thus queried, we do not equivocate. The answer is that we do neither because we are a court both of law and of justice. We apply the law with justice for that is our mission and purpose in the scheme of our Republic."

Quoted below are some excerpts explaining the reasons for the decision.

"The petition before us appears to be an illustration of the Holmes dictum that 'hard cases make bad laws' as the petitioners obviously cannot argue against the fact that there was really no written notice given by the vendors to their co-heirs...But as has been aptly observed, we test a law by its effect, and likewise, we may add, by its purposes. An indispensable part of that intent, for we presume the good motives of the legislature, is *to render justice.*"

"In the face of the established facts, we cannot accept the private respondents' pretense that they were unaware of the sales made by their brother and sister in 1963 and 1964. By requiring written proof of such notice, we would be closing our eyes to the obvious truth in favor of their palpably false claim of ignorance, thus exalting the letter of the law over its purpose."

"We interpret and apply the law not independently of but in consonance with justice. Law and justice are inseparable, and we must keep them so. To be sure, there are some laws that, while generally valid, may seem arbitrary when applied in a particular case because of its peculiar circumstances. In such a situation, we are not bound, because only of our nature and functions, to apply them just the same in slavish obedience to their language. What we do instead is find a balance between the word and the will, that justice may be done even as the law is obeyed.

"As judges, we are not automatons. We do not and must not unfeelingly apply the law as it is worded, yielding like robots to its literal command without regard to its cause and consequence. 'Courts are apt to err by sticking too closely to the words of a law,' so we are warned by Justice Holmes again, 'where these words import a policy that is beyond them.' While we admittedly may not legislate, we nevertheless have the power to interpret the law in such a way as to reflect the will of the legislature. While we may not read *into* the law a purpose that is not there, we nevertheless have the power to read *out of it* the reason for its enactment. In doing so, we defer not to 'the letter that killeth' but to the spirit that 'vivifieth,' to give effect to the lawmaker's will.

"So we have done in this case."

Malversation in Maguindanao

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

ONE can see where it could happen in the private sector, although it shouldn't: contributions from employees being deducted from their payroll, but not being remitted to the Social Security System (or Pag-IBIG, or whatever), along with the employer's share. With tens of thousands of small firms, the SSS may have neither the time nor the energy to go after them.

But one cannot see how it could happen in the government sector. It is a much smaller sector, in the first place, with maybe three million members, tops, compared to the SSS' more than 20 million, plus a much smaller number of agencies to be accounted for, and therefore a larger number of employees per agency on the average.

What is more, in the government sector, discovery of the misdeed should be almost immediate. Where the private firm may not even be registered, or small enough to fall between the cracks of SSS surveillance, a government agency leaves a very wide and conspicuous paper trail. Its failure to remit its contributions to the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) would be immediately noticed by that agency, and within a year, by the Commission on Audit (COA), what with that agency not only conducting its annual audits, but with its representative holding office physically on the premises of every government agency.

And once the COA makes its findings, copies of the audit are forwarded, one is informed, to the Department of the Interior and Local Governments (DILG) and the Office of the President, not to mention the Senate and the House leadership. And where necessary, to the Office of the Ombudsman. If that were not enough, there is the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) waiting in the wings, the former mandated to protect government employees, the latter able to exercise at least tremendous moral suasion because it releases all government funds.

Thus, one would think that the government employee, while earning less on the average than her private-sector counterpart, at least would be safe from the dangers that the latter faces insofar as her social safety nets are concerned.

Not so. At least, not in the case of the employees of the provincial government of Maguindanao, who number between 684 and more than 800, depending on when one does the count. They are now twisting in the wind.

It seems that at least since 1998 the provincial government failed to remit their contributions to the GSIS and Pag-IBIG, although these had been deducted regularly from their paychecks. Needless to say, neither were the employer's (the provincial government) contributions remitted.

The GSIS apparently wrote letters to the provincial government, calling its attention to this, and then announced that unless the contributions were made up to date, it (GSIS) would suspend all benefits that could usually be availed off by its members.

Note, dear readers: The fault was clearly with the provincial government, but the penalty was imposed on the government employees, who, as far as they were concerned, were up-to-date in their contributions. This is presumably standard operating procedure for the GSIS, which, to say the least, is lousy SOP.

Note, further: Other than sending the letters, the GSIS made no further move to actively collect the payments that were due to it. Not even a "copy furnished" to the DBM or the DILG, which presumably would be in a position to exercise leverage over the provincial government and force it to do the right thing. Nor to the COA, presumably because it guessed the COA would find out on its own soon enough. Nor even to the CSC, which should clearly be in the loop, because it is after all the protector of government employees.

In other words, no coordination with other agencies involved. The GSIS was acting like a perfect example of a non-caring bureaucracy.

The COA's annual audit apparently uncovered the problem too. One is informed that its 1998, 1999 and 2000 audits contained the findings that there were no remittances to the GSIS by the provincial government.

Why didn't the COA do anything? Because, dear readers, it apparently is not within its mandate to go after the financial wrongdoers. It can only point out the wrongdoings. At least, that is what I was told when I asked.

I was also told that after all, the COA did send "copy furnished" of its audits to the DILG, etc., etc. It is not sure whether it sent a copy to the Ombudsman. And again, it never even thought of sending a copy to the CSC, in spite of the knowledge that the people who would get screwed here would be the government employees.

And so everyone who could have done something about it sat idly by, either because they were uncaring or ignorant, while malversation of government (and government employees') funds was taking place over at least a three-year period. Meanwhile, the hundreds of provincial government employees suffered in silence as they were unable to get any benefits that should have been theirs: salary loans, emergency loans, housing loans, educational loans, medical or hospitalization benefits.

Four years and a new governor later, the Maguindanao employees are still waiting, having brought their case to the Ombudsman last October, with nothing so far to show for it.

I have brought their case to two of the best problem-solvers in the government: DBM's Emy Boncodin and CSC's Karina David. If anyone can straighten this out, they can. And should.

Cornered, VP tried wit and charm at MOPC

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

WHATEVER the real circumstances behind the Palace announcement the other day that Vice President Teofisto Guingona had resigned as foreign secretary and its decision to deny that story hours later, Malacañang became the loser owing to two unrelated events. These were the sudden relief by Interior Secretary Joey Lina of seven generals over the *jueteng* issue and the crisis over Guingona's "resignation." Though unrelated, both created the impression that the executive branch has not thought out or coordinated its decisions well.

Lina ought to be congratulated for his intention and guts in wanting to do the impossible: to rid country of illegal gambling. Unfortunately, his purge of the top generals handling the campaign was stopped in its tracks by Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos, on the ground that the SK election law bans the movement of government personnel. This very basic detail could have been checked first before that move was taken. On the other hand, the announcement on Guingona's reported "resignation" turned out to have no basis in fact since the Vice President later said he hadn't submitted any resignation nor did he intend to do so. Acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable was forced to retract the story and apologize to him.

* * *

These recent events encourage the perception in some quarters that the Palace is not fully in control of things and that various groups working for President Macapagal cannot get their act together. In turn, this gives the opposition some ammunition, and worse, since the Vice President is also the DFA chief, anything involving his fate causes puzzlement and confusion around the world. The group that handled his so-called resignation fumbled when they treated it as a routine matter instead of the highly sensitive issue that it is. The public had been hearing rumors of a revamp in the Cabinet for some time, and in fact Guingona himself alluded to speculations concerning him earlier this week, but one thing that became evident the other day was that there is a group that is too much in a hurry to see him off. My guess is that it is related to the mutual logistics support agreement with the *Kano*.

* * *

If news of his "resignation" shocked Guingona earlier Thursday afternoon, by the time he appeared before the Manila Overseas Press Club that evening at the "Vice President's Night," after a 40-minute talk with the President, he was calm, cool and collected, cracking jokes about his being "still with DFA" and taking refuge in wit and charm when the media's "inquisition" became too hot for comfort. The three ladies in the MOPC's panel of interrogators, Time's Nelly Sindayen, Today's Malou Talosig and GMA-7's Rachelle Sy, repeatedly zeroed in on the so-called President's letter to the VP, and members of the MOPC board, led by its president Tony Lopez and past president Max Soliven, were only too happy to help grill the Vice President. But the lawyer in him refused to be cornered. At evening's end, his performance won from Lopez and Soliven the grudging verdict: "You did very well."

In sum, Guingona admitted that there is a generation gap between him and the President ("I was more attuned to the father than the daughter") as well as some differences in outlook on certain issues. But he acknowledged that he has to be "realistic" and promised to work hard at being a team player.

* * *

This column recently opined that part of the reason young people from the upper classes, especially in the urban areas, are said to be losing hope in the future of the country, as the recent Pulse Asia survey of March to April 2002 showed, is the prospect that the uninformed masses could once again determine the political future of the country, simply because they control the biggest number of votes. The youth from the upper classes fear that in 2004, the *masa* will vote for an Estrada clone or his political heir, Panfilo Lacson.

Another reason could be the squabbles among the politicians who seem to be more concerned with pushing their personal agenda than working for the national interest. The survey was taken some weeks before the Senate coup of June 3, but there is little doubt that the people are upset over the deadlock in that chamber that imperils the administration's legislative agenda. The members of the Senate should read in the survey results the people's demand to address the impasse now. While the opposition is saying that jumping to the administration coalition would be "opportunism," actually it makes more sense for the opposition to join the coalition, as the latter is in harmony with the ruling party in the House and the executive branch. Restoring the Senate to the administration coalition will ensure the speedy passage of crucial bills. Therefore, those opposition senators who don't have serious issues against their colleagues in the administration coalition ought to think of the national interest first, before partisan considerations.

* * *

Tomorrow, Sunday, June 30, 2002, is the 25th anniversary of the UP Parish of the Holy Sacrifice in Diliman, Quezon City, and a number of activities will take place there tomorrow. A concelebrated Mass will be said by Jaime Cardinal Sin and all the previous parish priests of the parish at 10 a.m. At 3 p.m., the militant priests' group, Gomburza, will bless and dedicate the Gomburza Monument made by London-based Pinoy sculptor Tito Sanchez at the Hardin ng Karunungang Bayan. Also at 3 p.m. the book "The Father Delaney We Knew" will be launched. It is published by the Fr. J. P. Delaney memorial committee under the initiative of the parish priest, Roberto P. Reyes. The public is cordially invited.

The price children pay

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

ON THE DAY her parents left for Italy, recalls Wilma Palejon, 16, "they bought my brothers and me toys and told us to play. Later on, when we turned around to look for them, they were gone."

Reina Villafuerte, also 16 and a classmate of Wilma's, recalls a similarly abrupt departure. "My mom told me that she was going to the bank," remembers Reina. "The next day, I asked my sister how come Mommy did not come home. She told me she had left to work abroad."

Both Wilma and Reina were about 3 at the time their parents left, but the memory of those sudden and unexplained departures are indelible. Though acknowledging their parents' decision to work abroad was made for their sake, the girls are not sure the material rewards were worth the price of a deprived childhood.

"I would not do what my parents did," says Reina, who believes it was her parents' absence during their childhood that led to the pregnancy of her two older sisters while they were teenagers. "I think that if my parents were here, even just one of them, this would not have happened."

Filindon, 25, named for the nationalities of his parents, tells his story from Italy, where he lives with his parents. But the day his mother left him in Manila to rejoin his father in Italy is etched in his mind.

He didn't cry as his mother disappeared behind sliding glass doors at the airport, recalls Filindon, who was 4 at the time. He simply asked his grandfather where his mother went, and was told, "Now she must go to work, but she'll come back for you." Says Filindon: "I kept waiting, and waiting…until I waited no longer. I guess it was then when I started calling my grandparents mama and papa."

* * *

THE STORIES of Wilma, Reina and Filindon, as well as those of their parents—all the men and women caught in the Pinoy diaspora for jobs and dollars, financial security and social mobility—are told in the book "Risks and Rewards: Stories from the Philippine Migration Trail."

Published by the Inter Press Service Asia-Pacific, the book is a collection of 36 articles written for an IPS-Ford Foundation media project on migration and reproductive health/sexuality. "The stories underscore how human needs cross national boundaries and societies, needs that are not always responded to by the government and groups working with migrants, or by countries that host these workers. Indeed, host countries often deal with foreign workers through their immigration offices, exclude them from the usual labor laws—and look away when talk shifts to migrant workers' rights or access to basic services," notes Johanna Son, IPS Asia-Pacific regional director, in her foreword.

The articles deal with various aspects of the migration story: the threat of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases for seamen and their often-clueless spouses, migrant women's vulnerability to sexual exploitation and the destruction of marriages and families wrought by years of separation and loneliness.

* * *

BUT it is the children's stories that tug at the heart hardest. Migrant workers say their primary reason for leaving the country to find work abroad is the "children." It is for the children, they say, that they endure long hours, humiliating occupations and numbing loneliness. Others pay an even higher price: rape and sexual harassment, violence, even imprisonment and deportation. But if their parents sacrifice so much to ensure their welfare and a better future, so, too, do the children pay something in exchange.

Filindon was 8 when his parents traveled back to Manila to reclaim him. His mother Perlita says she "felt like dying" when Filindon opened the door, looked at her, and asked "Who are you?" She managed to smile and whispered "I'm your mama, Filindon." He ran, calling for his grandparents, and came back with a photograph of Perlita. "He kept moving his eyes from me to the portrait," she recalled.

When he caught sight of his father, Filindon asked: "Who is that?" "That's your daddy," answered Perlita. "Hi…uncle…uncle daddy!" the boy exclaimed. Fritz, the father, burst out in tears, saying "I'm sorry, I'm sorry." "The two of them were crying, and I didn't understand why," Filindon recalls.

When Filindon joined his parents as they flew back to Italy, it was his grandmother's turn to feel the ache. "You can't take my baby away from me!" she told Perlita, her daughter.

* * *

THOUGH they were now an intact family, Filindon and his parents never really got over their sense of alienation and guilt. Back in Italy, Fritz would quiz his son: "Whom do you love more?" and the boy would answer: "My mama and papa," meaning his grandparents:

Knowing very little of the language and smarting from homesickness, Filindon didn't make any friends for much of his growing-up years. "It was difficult for me to express my feelings," he explains. Today, he is engaged to Joenit, 21, also the daughter of a Filipino migrant couple, who was brought to Italy when she was 17. When her mother left Manila for good when she was 11, Joenit was left to fend for herself along with her two older brothers, enjoying extraordinary freedom and independence.

"Filipino parents think that their children are still the kids left at home years ago, creating serious communication problems," says Joenit. She now lives in a separate apartment, and though she says she's not angry with her parents, she declares: "No, I would never leave my children! Never."

Journey to Lucban (2)

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper

"ALL the silence that surrounds the church during the night hours is converted into joyous merriment in the daytime. Few towns there must be that has so many religious *cofradias*, *hermandades* and *archcofradias* so that the church is constantly visited by a great number of faithful of both sexes that prepare and organize the feasts that occur throughout the year."

The most notable fiesta was that celebrated by young girls in the month of May conducted under the aegis of the Cofradia de la Guardia de Honor de Maria, composed of women, without distinction as to age or social standing, who wore a silver medal hanging from a blue ribbon. The association was organized to create a base for the perpetual veneration of the Virgin. The *hermana mayor* distributed the schedule in such a way and with such precision that there were always three women at prayer. The prayers were performed in the houses, the hour and the time given each member. On some days of Lent and Holy Week, the group would go on a pilgrimage to a picturesque mountain called El Calvario where a rough wooden cross was erected

On the last day of the Flores de Mayo novena, the young girls made their offering to Mary. On that day the church was covered with flowers and foliage. Suspended from the dome was a colossal rosary of leaves that dropped from the center of the nave and finished with a great cross of flowers in the presbyter. Enormous frameworks were constructed from banana trunks for giant candlesticks lavishly decorated with the leaves and flowers of sampaguita, champacas ilang-ilang and golden campaniles. The feast ended with the offering of the white crowns of flowers the young girls wore at the foot of the Virgin.

The women of the town were divided into three classes. The first, the *taga-bayan*, was considered the aristocracy. She spoke Spanish, was shod in boots on solemn occasions, or stockings with embroidered slippers on not so important feasts and naked feet protected by painted wooden clogs on ordinary days. She wore a narrow *tapis* with the opening behind or sometimes a loose skirt invariably of silk. Completing her attire was a top of expensive and embroidered *piña*. In church, she always knelt near the presbyter and the *taga-bayan* was never seen without her devotional and her rosary of coral, silver or nacre. Almost all of them had been to school where they learned to read, write and embroider. They were taught to play a musical instrument and some could even compose the words to a *kundiman* to a friend on her feast day. The distinctive characteristic of the *taga-bayan* was her snobbery. The hierarchy had to be faithfully kept; an intrusion of someone from another caste among these royal bloods could produce a feminine revolt.

The second hierarchy was made up of the *taga-tabi* who generally lived in the outskirts of the town. She could attend the parties of the aristocracy but she did not speak Spanish. She had no shoes and was unschooled, except for whatever information the *taga-bayan* wished to impart when she was allowed to come near them. The constant longing and desire of the *taga-tabi* was to reach the status of the *taga-bayan* to which ambition her happiness was often sacrificed by marriage to an old *capitan* or *cabeza* to gain upward mobility.

The real divide was found in the third class of women, known as *taga-linang* or the plebeians, women of the fields who looked up to the *taga-bayan*, who looked down from their towers like the ancient feudal ladies on the villagers who tilled the soil at the foot of the castle.

The inhabitants of Lucban were not farmers since tillable land at the time was scarce and difficult to cultivate due to the steepness of the terrain, the forests and the evil elements in them. The majority were engaged in working with gold, silver, steel and iron. The forge, anvil, file and chisel produced precious works of jewelry, useful machinery, various artifacts and elegant objects for collections and decoration. They also worked with carabao horns, making hilts for weapons, walking canes, knives, boxes, *salacots* and spoons from the horns of the wild animal. The inhabitants also wove hats and wallets from the strands of several palms, notably *buri*. Hats from Lucban even then were renowned in Manila and even abroad. In the Philadelphia exposition various types of weaves from various palms were sent and attracted much attention.

According to our travel writer, "in Lucban the girls do not play, they all work. The child cleans, pulls and prepares the fibers of the *buri*, the *cabo negro* and the *buntal* and the mother weaves the finest hats, wallets, *salacot*, glass holders, mats, *tampipi*, and even trousers as long as enough molds, time and money are given. The woman who does not weave embroiders with gold and silver thread or does work with glass beads, silk or fish scales. From these decorations in gold the town presented a precious crown to Gen. Alaminos in his 1874 visit."

Reading Guerra's account of his visit to Lucban in the 1870s makes you wonder what happened to all the works of art, the paintings and the jewelry, the customs and traditions. Obviously it was not the Pahiyas that the town was known for, unlike today when it is San Isidro Labrador that is celebrated and not so much the Flores de Mayo. Could the American regime have brought some peace and order and the infrastructure needed for farming? Did the grand ladies of the town become then more democratic? What appears to have remained a constant are the beautiful hats of Lucban and the lush greenness.

Face of the Oblation

FROM WHERE I live in Diliman, Quezon City, it is but a sho walk to Quezon Hall. For those who are not very famili with the University of the Philippines, Quezon Hall is whe the famous UP landmark, the Oblation, stands. Our belove "Oble" is said to be a symbol of freedom and sacrifice for th country.

It is in front of the "Oble" where UP students, faculty members and employees usually assemble to express their sentiments and views on national issues that have a bearing on the lives of millions of Filipinos. For the students, activism is grounded on the belief that "Iskolars ng Bayan" have the responsibility to speak out for and advan the rights of the marginalized and oppressed in Philippi society.

YOUNG BLOOD

Arenvi

We want to know what the you are thinking about. What are the thoughts on current issues? W welcome contributions from th twentysomething and below.—E

Tonight, even as the towering structure is ablaze with thousand flickering lights against the dark sky, a purple ban ner announces to everyone that a concert is being held to ad vocate children's and women's rights. I wonder what "mil itant" group is behind it this time.

Clichés. That is what movements are in the university And yet, the sweet music, the powerful lyrics and the conviction which the performers exude as well as the countles young men and women from this university who have joine the movement tell me otherwise. Maybe I call it a cliché as defense mechanism, to block out from my consciousness memories that are too painful to remember. For one of the countless lives that was "wasted" (according to our society's standards) in activism was my brother's.

His friends in high school called him Tasyo. He was one of the most intelligent and fun-loving people I have ever known. I am not saying this because he was my brother but because witnessed him doing almost effortlessly so many things that most people, myself included, found hard to do.

Like most boys his age, my brother preferred billiards to books and fun when he was in high school. So it came as a surprise to us when he passed the UP College Admission Test and qualified for a national scholarship program. Those achievements were all the more remarkable since he seemed not to care whether he passed or not when he took the exams.

College was the time for us to part ways. I was going to Diliman and he was destined for Los Baños.

I remember the words mother told him as we waited for his bus that cold Monday morning two years ago: "*Anak*, always remember why you are there. You are there to study and make a future for yourself."

Tasyo nodded silently. Trying to hold back our tears, we both promised to finish college, no matter what it took. We were going to show father that even without him, we could do it. We would give ourselves a chance at having a bright future.

I would like to think that I have remained true to that promise and that it was my brother who violated our pact. We didn't see each other very often after we enrolled. It hardly bothered me at first when I saw Tasyo wearing a malong and joining a few rallies or heard him boasting about an oath he took. But I was quite worried when he showed up at our dorm near the end of the semester and I saw how pale and thin he had become. He smelled as if he smoked all of his waking hours. I could sense that something was wrong.

When he told me that he was taking a leave of absence and that he had lost his scholarship, I wanted to strangle him or at least shake him up until he recovered his senses. But he was passionately talking about Marxism, denouncing American imperialism and declaring he would rather go to the mountains than earn a degree in Applied Mathematics.

How could he be so calm, insensitive, happy even at the prospect of dropping out of school? I protested. How could he forget that cold Monday morning?

For the next two years, he would go off to Los Baños at the beginning of every semester to enroll. Then he would return after a week or so to tell my mother he had changed his mind about resuming his studies.

His last trip to Los Baños was the scariest for us. He came home one night with one arm bleeding. He didn't have to tell me he had been wounded during an encounter with the police or military. My fear increased when he told me he was almost killed somewhere in Cubao. He added that after what happened, he could never go back to Los Baños.

That event and the realization that he had lost a rare opportunity for self-advancement seemed to have sealed his fate. He grew quieter and more irritable. He seemed to be always scared of something or someone. He would sit on the terrace until the wee hours of morning, smoking, drinking coffee and listening to songs that were anything but mainstream. Songs like "Tatsulok" which talks about the inequality and iniquity of the existing social structure.

As the days went by he grew more and more withdrawn and weird. We made sure he did not have enough money for bus fare to Los Baños. We feared that given the opportunity and the means, he would make good his threat to do what he termed as "*paglubog*," meaning waging revolution full-time.

Then one day early this year, he must have been overwhelmed by his frustrations and hang-ups in life. Deep down, I know, he was torn by the fact that he could not live a normal life while fighting for the ideology he believed in. He was pulled one way by what he regarded as his obligation to the masses and the opposite way by his "*burgis na pangarap.*" *The relatively simple task of finishing college became very difficult for him as it would somehow contribute to the perpetuation of a system he considered oppressive and repulsive. He could not go on, knowing that to live the life everyone wanted for himself would help promote the injustice he saw around us. That was the burden he couldn't bear and the torment he could not live with.*

One morning, we found him in bed with his left wrist caked with blood. We carried his limp and still warm body into a neighbor's jeep and rushed him to the nearest hospital.

No, my brother did not die. He did not die after what he did to himself. He did not die like the others who fought in the mountains in the belief that they could change society.

To me, he remains alive: the vacant look in his eyes, his frail body bumming around the house, his bright intellect all wasted and his happy countenance gone forever. His eyes flicker with interest and emotion when he is cursing this and that politician or recounting his "adventures" with his friends in Los Baños.

Like Tasyo, I have certain beliefs that others might consider radical. I also have this intense desire to change society and rid it of its many ills. But I have to finish college first. I have to earn what he calls "starvation wages" to support my mother and my youngest brother. And I have to finish college for him.

Still, I salute Tasyo. He had the kind of passion and love many of us don't have. He loved his ideology and wanted to live by it. But I really doubt if he fully understood that ideology. In his case, activism was more of a refuge than a commitment. It was an escape from our own family's deprivation. Still, he lived the way he believed life should be be lived, and maybe that is all that matters. Many of us do not.

Tonight, I can clearly make out the face of the Oblation. It has the face of my brother and many others like him who gave everything for the cause. It is the face of Tasyo.

Arenvi, 19, is a social work junior at the University of the Philippines in Diliman and works as a student assistant.

LETTERS PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Marijuana industry flourishing in Kalinga

DESPITE the yearly uprooting exercises, there is apparently no real intention on the part of the police and military to stop for good the marijuana industry in Mt. Chumanchil in Butbut, Tinglayan, Kalinga.

Consider the following: (1) The police know that high-tech marijuana processing facilities exist in Butbut but they have done nothing about it. (2) They uproot and burn several bundles and then claim they have destroyed 10 hectares. (3) Nobody involved in the production and processing of marijuana has been prosecuted since the industry started in the 1980s.

It is public knowledge that the planting and processing of marijuana in Butbut is open. As open as the rice production in Tabuk or the flesh trade in Olongapo and Angeles before the closure of the US military bases. One person we know swears that during a visit to Butbut sometime in the early 1990s, nobody prevented him from taking photos of maturing marijuana planted in a patch right in the center of the town. While leaving the barangay, he saw women climbing a hill with loaded sacks on their heads. Their guide said they were bringing marijuana to the processing center on top of the hill.

At Buscalan, another Butbut barangay, the group chanced upon men working on marijuana harvest in the various stages of its preparation for the market. A member of the group took a photo of a man winnowing what looked like pounded, dried marijuana leaves.

Why the authorities consider uprooting marijuana on Mt. Chumanchil an accomplishment is a puzzle. The marijuana plants do not run or hide.

The real challenge is to put in jail the people behind the marijuana industry in Butbut. Only then will they be able to realize the difference between producing marijuana from producing rice or beans.

PNP regional director Chief Supt. George Aliño admits that more than 70 percent of the country's marijuana supply comes from the Cordillera. He has been telling the media how he plans to reduce the marijuana production to a trickle. But if he cannot do it, he might as well discuss with the Department of Tourism the possibility of turning Mt. Chumanchil into a tourist attraction so that our people who have not seen marijuana will have the chance to see and even handle the plant.

—REV. LUIS AOAS, ESTANISLAO ALBANO JR., Tabuk, Kalinga

Small man with a big heart

A HUMAN drama unfolded during a fire that broke out at the height of the feast of St. John the Baptist last June 24 in San Agustin, Moonwalk, Parañaque City.

A man came out of nowhere, broke through a heavy cordon of kibitzers and entered several houses engulfed by flames to bring out some 30 tots to safety, unmindful of personal safety.

The hero, Redentor Baldomer Tingzon, sustained injuries but he did not stop until all the children were safe. He is small but a hulk of man in heart and courage.

Incidentally, Tingzon is known in his own neighborhood for his personal crusade against prohibited drugs and others. On many occasions, he put his life on the line fighting for his cause.

I salute Tingzon many times over for his heroism and concern for his fellow man.

—JOE C. MARQUEZ, Sto. Niño, Parañaque City

Bitter lessons of history

HAS our politics gone berserk? If the opposition is serious in fielding actor Fernando Poe Jr. as its standard bearer in 2004, then something is really wrong. It would confirm our suspicion that we treat politics and governance as a contest of popularity and charisma—two things that cannot substitute for quality and performance, since they cannot help anyone solve our recurring problems that deprive our countrymen of the opportunity to live decent lives.

We have experimented with the Estrada presidency. We have been hurt because of our irresponsible choices which forced us to resort to people power, an event that has divided our poor nation.

Let us thank FPJ for not succumbing to the temptation of political power, for knowing his limitations and lack of experience to run the country. He showed a deep sense of responsibility and sensitivity by declaring through a spokesperson that he would not run, thus allowing this country to have better candidates in the next elections.

We cannot afford to have an Erap clone in Malacañang. We cannot afford another experiment. The damage wrought by Erap's short-lived presidency was too much.

We have been ailing since then. Our future has become bleak. Our youth have grown skeptical about our capacity to govern them and prepare the way for national redemption and rebirth. Our damaged political institutions and constitutional schemes have yet to be repaired. We must learn from the bitter lessons of history.

—DODO RA. CAGAS,
Digos City,
Davao del Sur

Another unjustifiable SLEX toll hike

THE INCREASE in toll at the South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) next week is sure to irritate a lot of motorists. The current fee is high enough now for most people and increasing it further should make a lot of household budgets run short. To think that the service being provided by the SLEX is not even satisfactory.

A person doesn't need to live in the southern areas to feel the hassles of using the SLEX. Just one trip would do. Traffic is a constant problem. The Skyway was supposed to ease that problem, for a price of course. But the problem remains while motorists pay a hefty price for the Skyway's unfulfilled promise of a shorter trip. Skyway users still get caught in traffic just like everybody else.

What's the point of paying P65 then?

Now, to add insult to injury, they will have to cough up more money to use the SLEX. The toll increase is set for July 1, 2002. But the SLEX's performance does not even justify the present toll.

The Philippine National Construction Corp. (PNCC) and the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB) just cannot handle this problem. Or maybe they deliberately overlook the annoyance that high, unjustified fees bring to the average motorist.

Still, there are people who see this problem and look for ways to stop it. Even if just to bring it to the attention of those who can really stop the toll hike.

I am hoping that more people will speak up on this issue.

—DENNIS ESPADA,
San Pedro,
Laguna

A celebration or an orgy of insanity?

WHAT is it with some Catholics that they can take a perfectly solemn event, like the baptism of Christ by St. John the Baptist, and turn it into an orgy of insanity, inflicting misery on scores of innocent people? I am referring of course to the annual practice in San Juan, Metro Manila, of dousing with water (clean and otherwise) everyone who lives there or just happens to be passing through on that day.

The areas where the ritual was carried out with sadistic enthusiasm were those along Pinaglabanan, N. Domingo, F. Blumentritt and many side-streets nearby. Curiously, this practice was not seen in the San Juan portion of Ortigas and Greenhills. Why is this so? Are the people in Greenhills, for example, less faithful in the observance of a supposedly religious celebration, or is it because they have to attend to their work, and the kids need to go to school?

I'm sure the good saint will not mind if his feast day is observed with less rowdy rituals.

In all the years I have been living in San Juan, I have witnessed several such incidents turning really ugly. Hapless employees on their way to work and schoolchildren in their uniforms are drenched from head to toe. How do you expect these unfortunate souls to go about their business, with their clothes soaking wet?

Obviously, those half-crazed, half-naked lunatics couldn't care less, so long as they had their "fun." Some even resorted to kicking vehicles whose drivers refused to open their windows. When confronted, their usual excuse was that this was part of their Christian tradition—never mind if Christianity stands for being tolerant, understanding and considerate of others.

All traditions that teach good values, including those just mentioned, should be promoted. There are other ways this water-dousing ritual can be practiced without infringing on the rights of other people. Why not hold this in participating churches within San Juan? A portable elevated pool can be set up in the churchyard, so that those who want to participate can jump into the pool, and the parish priest will perform the baptism on them. Would this not be a more fitting way to honor St. John the Baptist?

I hope the officials of San Juan will look into this matter. Sometimes the right decision can be very unpopular, but that's the challenge of leadership.

—OSCAR LEI,
119-B Benavidez St.,
San Juan, Metro Manila

Pastor house built by an Acosta

I WISH to call attention to a number of factual errors in the June 9, 2002, column of Rina Jimenez-David.

1. The "old house of Dr. Pastor" which she visited in Batangas City was not built by Dr. Pastor. It was built in 1883 by Kapitan Alejo Acosta, maternal great-grandfather of the Pastor-Acosta siblings. Doctor Pastor, whose wife is Concepcion Acosta, granddaughter of Kapitan Alejo Acosta, acquired it in 1936.

2. The would-be assassin of Gov. William Howard Taft never charged up the stairs of the house. He did not even enter the house. He was perched on an acacia tree across from the house. He took a shot at Taft, who was standing near a window, but hit the door instead.

3. The house never served or was used as a Lying-in Hospital at any time.

David used as much space extolling the credentials of her guide and being ecstatic over the food she was served as describing the intrinsic qualities of a historical heritage. One wonders whether the incidental aspects of her visits are more important to her than the historical significance of the artifact.

It's hard to see the relevance of the description of the lion marker at the crossroads leading to Batangas City. It is even more puzzling that she called it the "Stupid Lion."

—RAMON A. PASTOR, M.D.,
Batangas City

"Make Every Drop Count!"

PAGASA has predicted that El Niño will affect the country by September this year and shorten the rainy season. Consequently, we might have a longer summer season by next year.

To mitigate the effects of a dry spell, as what the country experienced this summer, we call on the public to conserve water by observing the following water saving tips. Each household can help a lot in the conservation of this valuable commodity.

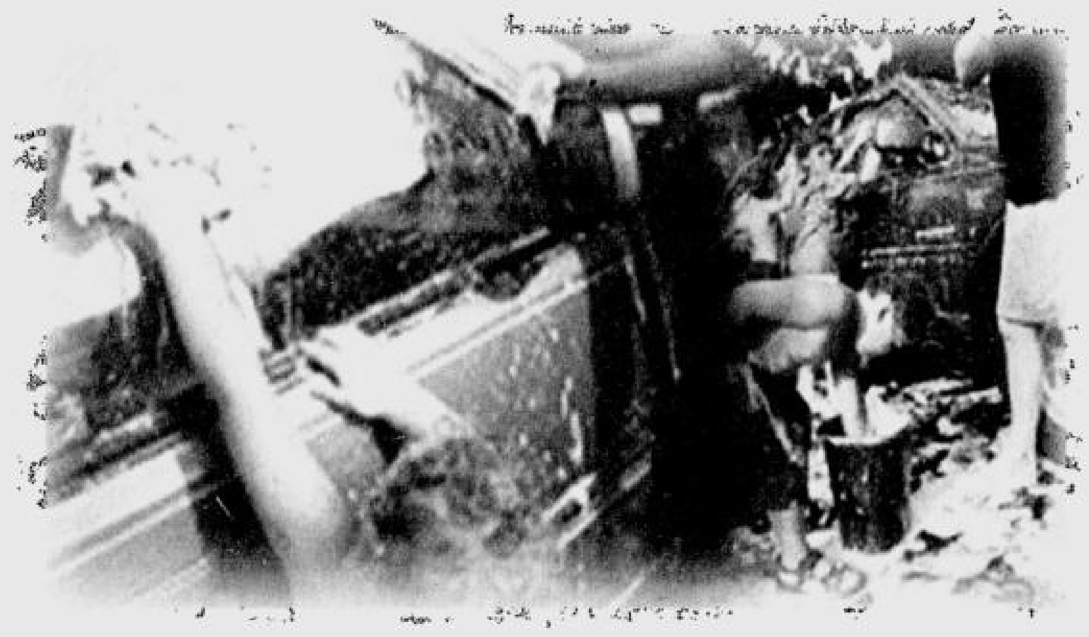
Water Saving Tips:

Check out pipes, water closets and connections in your home for any leaks

IN THE GARAGE

Use a pail and cotton rag when washing your car. Do not use a running hose and sponge.

Sweep your driveway instead of hosing it with water.



IN THE GARDEN

Water your plants and lawn early in the morning or late in the afternoon when its cooler. Don't water your plants during windy days or high noon.

Use a pail and dipper instead of sprinklers.

Don't water your lawn often. Never soak your lawn, grass does not need a lot of water.

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Palestinians defy Bush threat to deny US financial aid

GAZA—Palestinian officials brushed aside on Thursday a threat by US President George W. Bush to withhold financial aid and said Palestinians would defy growing pressure to replace their longtime leader, Yasser Arafat.

Israel's army, buoyed by a tougher US line against the Palestinians, fired missiles at a government compound in the West Bank city of Hebron in an effort to dislodge suspected militants holed up inside for the past three days.

Helicopter gunships fired at least four times, causing severe damage and leaving some of the walls blackened, witnesses said. There was no immediate word of injuries.

Reinforcing his call for a new Palestinian leadership "uncompromised by terror," Bush said late on Wednesday that US financial aid to the Palestinians would be contingent on their embrace of reforms and rejection of terrorism.

"The call by Bush contradicts the principles of democracy claimed by the United States," Palestinian Telecommunications Minister Imad al-Falouji told Reuters. "No one has the right to intervene in the internal affairs of the Palestinian people."

Bush issued his threat at a summit of major industrialized nations in Canada just hours after Arafat called new elections for next January and set plans to run again despite US opposition. Opinion polls show Arafat the likely winner.

"We won't be putting money into a society which is not transparent and (is) corrupt, and I suspect other countries won't either," Bush said.

The United States provides no direct funding to the Palestinian Authority, but has funneled millions of dollars in aid to humanitarian and development projects.

Arafat aide Ahmed Abdel-Rahman accused Bush of conducting an "unfair campaign" against the Palestinian leadership.

Key US allies had expressed little enthusiasm for Washington's efforts to remove Arafat, elected Palestinian president in 1996, as part of a new Middle East policy aimed at ending 21 months of Israeli-Palestinian violence.

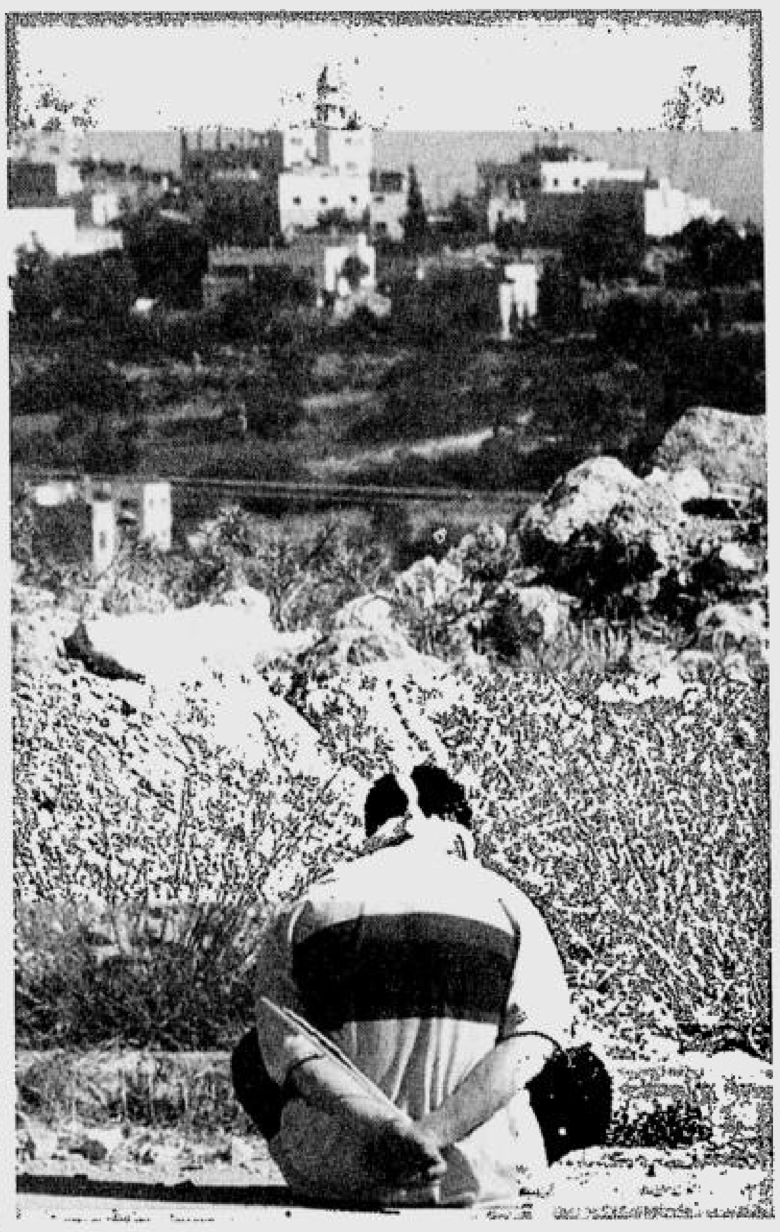
But on Thursday, Bush and some European leaders played down those differences.

"Many people are convinced that Arafat . . . should make a generous gesture and move aside," Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said at the G8 summit in Canada.

Israeli forces kept up their siege of the Palestinian Authority headquarters in Hebron, the seventh city reoccupied by Israeli forces after a spate of Palestinian suicide bombings.

Israeli commanders say at least 15 wanted militants are hiding in the compound. Israeli media said one militant who had already turned himself in to soldiers was an operative from the Lebanese Hizbollah guerrilla group.

Elsewhere in the West Bank, Palestinian witnesses said soldiers opened fire in a market in the center of Qalqilya during a break in the curfew, wounding three young Palestinians, including a 10-year-old boy who was critically injured. *Reuters*



MAAMOUN Amr, allegedly a member of Al Aqsa brigade, sits handcuffed after surrendering to Israeli forces when he emerged from a Palestinian Authority building in the West Bank city of Hebron June 26. Israeli helicopters rained rockets on Yasser Arafat's headquarters Thursday to flush out wanted militants inside the compound. REUTERS

US, Nokor hold talks in New York

WASHINGTON—US and North Korea held talks in New York on Thursday about resuming a formal dialogue, a senior US official said.

"Nothing was immediately settled," the official told Reuters, referring to the outcome of the contacts.

Earlier, the official had mistakenly said the meeting would occur on Friday.

US envoy Jack Pritchard met Pak Gil-yon, the head of the North Korean mission to the United Nations, in New York two weeks ago to prepare for the next stage of a dialogue proposed by US President George W. Bush and accepted by North Korea.

That meeting was to "confirm that we wanted to talk" and that the US approach would be on "a whole game plan," the official told Reuters.

The contacts Thursday in New York focused on more specific details of scheduling the anticipated formal negotiations—the "who, what and when," he said.

North Korea had criticized the Bush administration for not moving quickly enough to re-establish dialogue.

Secretary of State Colin Powell recently said the United States will hold talks with North Korea this month, and his deputy, Richard Armitage, said Washington wanted to send an official to the North Korean capital. *Reuters*

Fresh violence erupts in Kashmir

NEW DELHI/ISLAMABAD—Islamic militants fighting Indian rule in Kashmir pledged on Friday to keep up their revolt, a move that could disrupt state elections seen by New Delhi as key to bringing peace to the region.

The Hizb-ul-Mujahideen guerrilla group, based in Pakistan, made its statement after a fresh surge of violence in Indian Kashmir—at the heart of a military stand-off between nuclear-armed India and Pakistan.

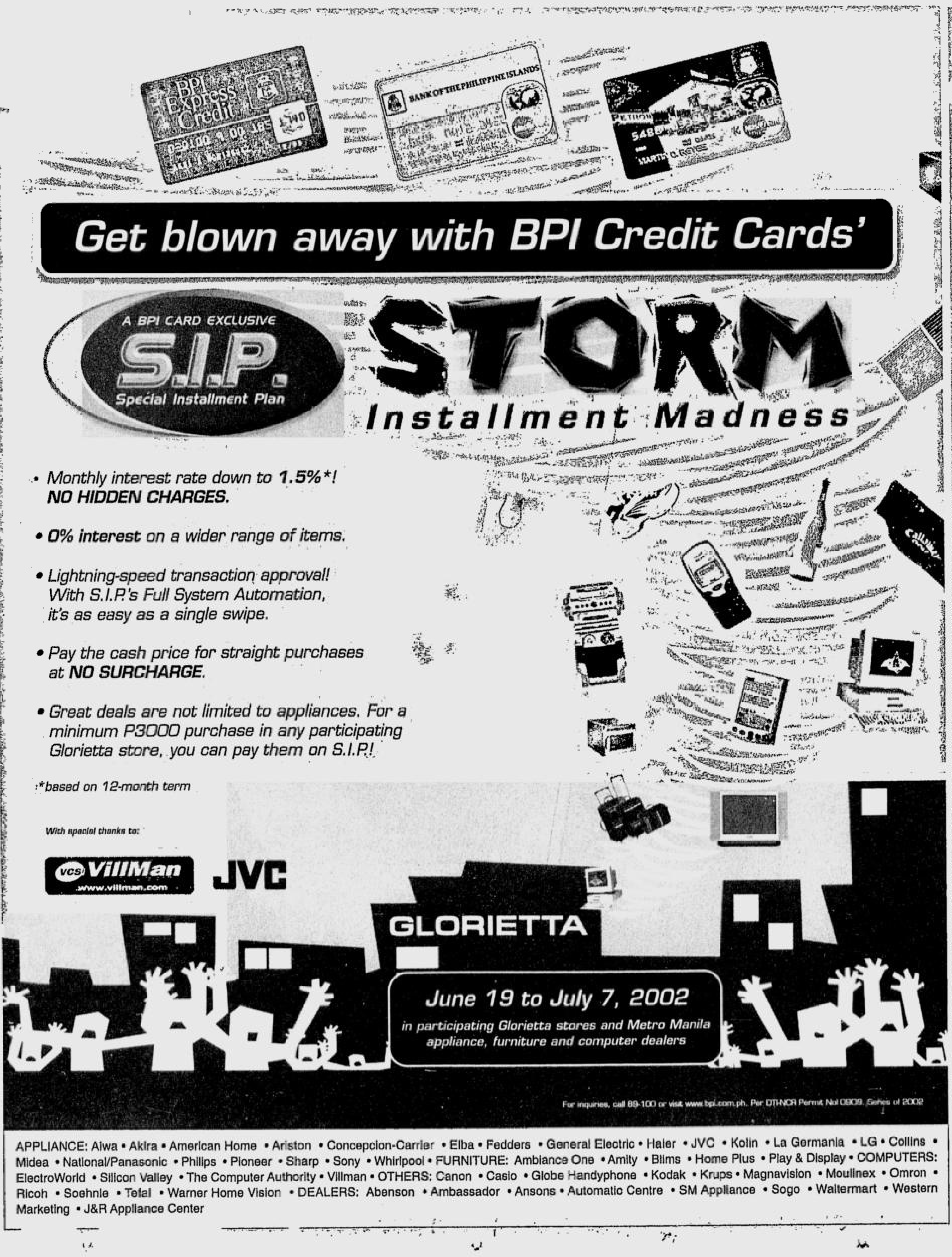
Indian police said 19 people, including eight from the Indian security forces, died in various incidents on Thursday, including one attack claimed by the Hizb-ul-Mujahideen.

"We will continue such attacks on Indian occupation forces and their installations unless they quit Kashmir," Salim Hashmi, spokesman for the Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, said by telephone from Rawalpindi in Pakistan.

"We have never targeted civilians, we only target Indian security forces and their installations," he said.

The fresh surge in violence coincided with a call by the Group of Eight rich nations for Pakistan to put a stop to extremist groups using the country as a base and for both Pakistan and India to get down to serious talks.

"We discussed the tensions between India and Pakistan. We agreed that Pakistan must put a permanent stop to terrorist activity originating from territory under its control," a G8 statement said after a summit in Kananaskis in Canada. *Reuters*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WorldCom execs ordered to appear in Congress as fraud probe widens

FORMER Enron employees Cynthia Coghlan (left), Christine Nielsen (center), and Carey Lorenzo pose on a statue of a bull in the financial district of New York on June 27. The three women were among ten from the energy company who posed for the August issue of Playboy magazine which featured in its nude photo spread "The Women of Enron." REUTERS

WASHINGTON—A congressional panel moved Thursday to subpoena WorldCom executives to testify on the telecom firm's accounting problems as the probe widened into what is shaping up as a blockbuster corporate scandal.

The House Financial Services Committee said it is also issuing a subpoena to Jack Grubman, the former telecom analyst at Salomon Smith Barney with close ties to the industry. The panel intends to hold a hearing July 8.

Committee Chairman Michael Oxley said the panel would subpoena former chief executive Bernie Ebbers, current president and chief executive John Sidgmore, sacked chief financial officer Scott Sullivan.

"Sadly, the news brings us yet another incident of accounting overreach," Oxley said. "These alleged short-term gains created by the executives are going to cause long-term pain for the WorldCom families."

The hearing will look further into accounting problems in the telecommunications sector, and their effects on employees, retirees, and investors, a committee statement said. "The WorldCom news dramatically underscores the need for legislative and regulatory reform," Oxley said.

"Problems with accounting in telecommunications are, unfortunately, damaging a key growth sector of the economy that is already facing other, steep challenges."

Meanwhile, government and corporate leaders tried to get to the bottom of the $3.8 billion accounting misstatement that has been labeled fraud by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

US Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill called the scandal "mind-boggling" and urged prosecution "to the fullest extent of the law" following disclosure of nearly $4 billion in wrongly booked expenses, likely the largest in US corporate history.

"I think it's not possible for (the accounting fraud) to be done by one individual," O'Neill told ABC television.

"The scope of what they've done at WorldCom requires complicity of quite a few people, I think, because the numbers are so huge and the accounting technique they use is so fundamental that it's just mind boggling."

Meanwhile, analysts said the gimmicks used at WorldCom were so simple they should have been caught by auditors at Arthur Andersen—the same firm that audited Enron and which has been convicted on criminal charges of obstruction of justice in that case. *AFP*

World's first permanent war crimes court starts work

THE HAGUE—The first permanent global war crimes court starts work on Monday, decades after World War II prompted calls for a tribunal to try heinous crimes, but faces stiff opposition from the United States, Russia and China.

The Dutch-based International Criminal Court (ICC) will have the power to tackle genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes as of July 1.

"We hope it will deter future war criminals, and bring nearer the day when no ruler, no state, no junta and no army anywhere will be able to abuse human rights with impunity," United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan said.

But its backers say Washington is trying to cripple the tribunal before it starts, portraying a US drive to win immunity for peacekeepers as a campaign against the court itself, which has been ratified by 69 other countries.

The United States says the court would infringe on national sovereignty and could lead to politically motivated prosecutions of its officials or soldiers working outside US borders.

The row will not remove the symbolism of Monday's opening.

Human rights groups have hailed the court's creation as the biggest milestone for international justice since top Nazis were tried by an international military tribunal in Nuremberg after World War II.

"I am delighted to see the progress that is being made to carry out the principles we articulated in Nuremberg so long ago," Benjamin Ferencz, a Nuremberg prosecutor, said on a visit to The Hague.

"There must be a recognition that we are all members of one human family. We have to create new institutions. This is one of them. This is another step forward in humanity's slow march towards civilization."

Anyone—from a head of state to an ordinary citizen—will be liable to ICC prosecution for human rights violations, including systematic murder, torture, rape and sexual slavery.

A handful of ICC staff will start work without fanfare at the court's headquarters in a 16-storey office block in The Hague on Monday. They will pave the way for the arrival of 18 judges and a chief prosecutor in early 2003. *Reuters*

International pedophilia ring busted

BRUSSELS—More than 20 people have been arrested in various countries on suspicion of involvement in an international pedophilia ring whose victims include very young children, Belgian media reported Thursday.

The network covers around a dozen countries but is particularly active in Belgium as well as Denmark, England, Switzerland and the United States, the La Derniere-Heure newspaper reported.

"The investigation in Belgium has finished but it is being actively pursued abroad," the paper said, adding that 22 people had been arrested.

In Belgium, the inquiry was centered on the towns of Verviers and Charleroi, the paper said.

Prosecutors in Charleroi said the international network was based in Switzerland but refused to comment further.

Charleroi hit the headlines in March last year when a man was accused of torturing and raping his own eight-month-old daughter there—one of a series of horrific cases of sexual abuse in Belgium in recent years.

The revelations come almost six years since the arrest of suspected Belgian child killer and rapist Marc Dutroux, whose alleged crimes horrified the country. He is finally expected to go on trial next year.

Dutroux is accused of kidnapping and murdering two young girls and two teenagers, whose bodies were found at Dutroux's properties in 1996. He also stands accused of raping the four girls, as well as two others who were found alive on one of his properties. *AFP*

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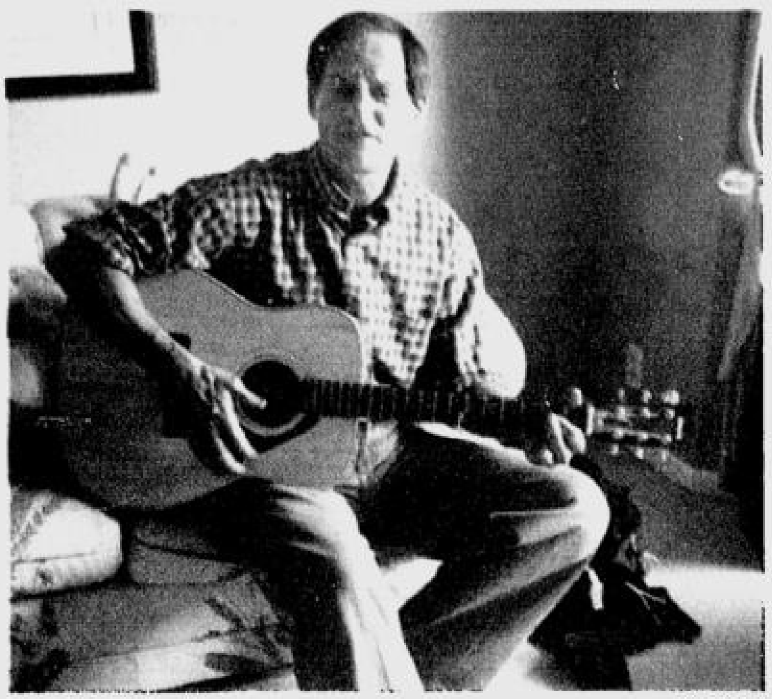


REUTERS

MICHAEL Newdow, an emergency room doctor who pled his own case that resulted in the Pledge of Allegiance being called unconstitutional, sings his own song about the Pledge of Allegiance in his living room, June 27 in Sacramento, California.

Ruling on Pledge of Allegiance put on hold amid loud backlash

SAN FRANCISCO—An appeals court judge who ruled that the Pledge of Allegiance taken daily by millions of US schoolchildren was unconstitutional because it speaks of God stayed the ruling Thursday amid a deafening backlash.

"Judge Alfred Goodwin stopped the resolution . . . pending further appeals," said court spokesman David Maden, explaining that the ruling, scheduled to take effect in seven days in nine western states, would be put on hold.

Goodwin was a member of the three-judge panel and wrote the opinion that sparked a storm of protest and outraged US President George W. Bush, attending a Group of Eight summit in Canada.

"The Almighty is, obviously, (an) important part of my life, an important part of the life of our country. And that's why the ruling of the courts was out of step with the traditions and history of America," he said.

Bush's comments came a day after the most frequently reversed US appeals court, sitting in San Francisco, ruled that the 110-year-old pledge violates the constitution's ban on government establishment of religion.

The Justice Department led the legal charge against the ruling, saying it would request a rehearing of the appeals court panel decision before the full 11-member bench of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

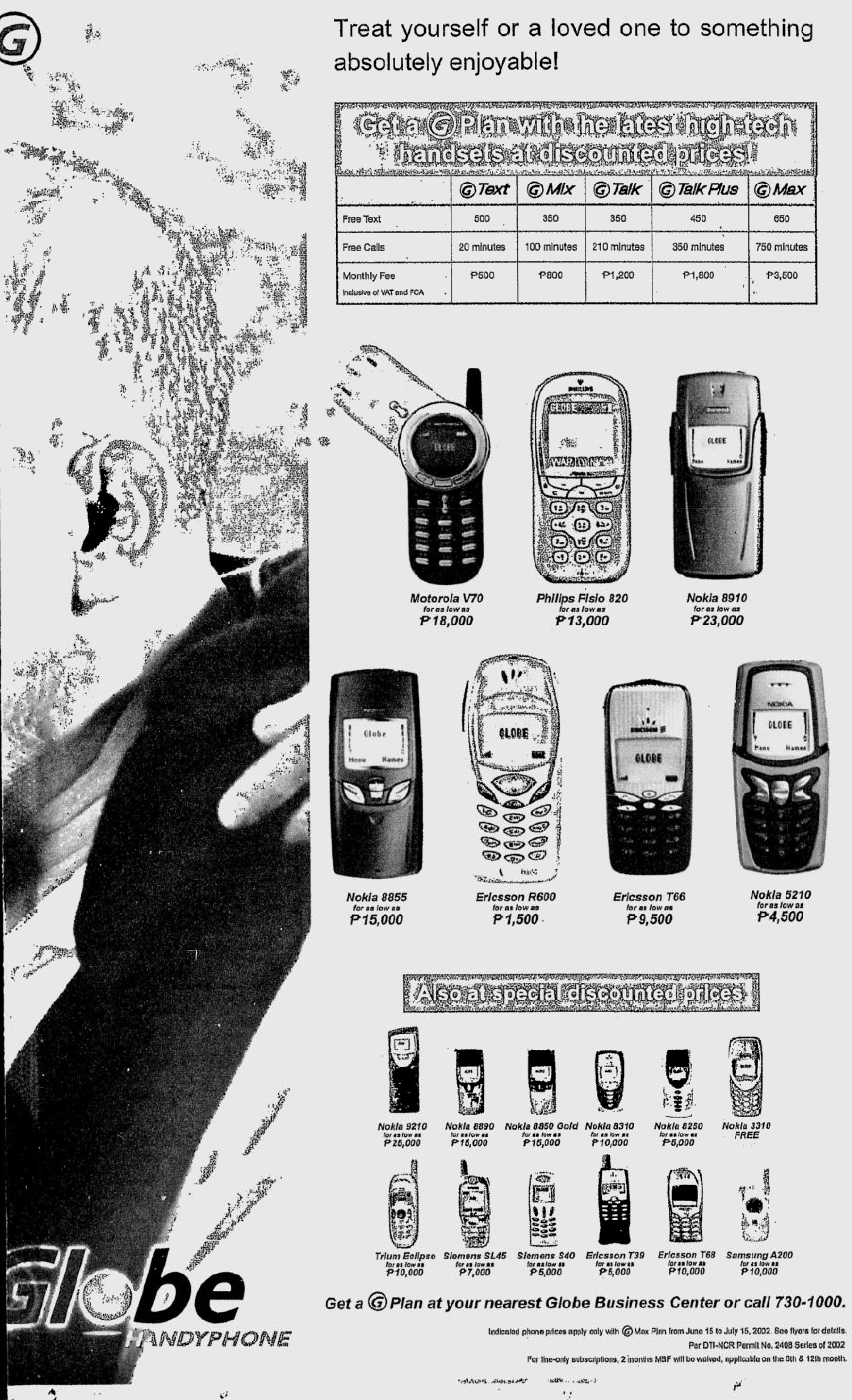
"The Justice Department will defend the ability of our nation's children to pledge allegiance to the American flag by requesting a rehearing 'en banc' by the full Ninth Circuit," the department said in a statement.

"At this time, when citizens from all backgrounds have come together to express solidarity as Americans, this Justice Department will spare no effort to preserve the rights of all Americans," the statement added.

California Governor Gray Davis asked the state's attorney general, Bill Lockyer, to demand a rehearing.

"The pledge is a powerful and unifying expression of American patriotism. The court's decision was wrong and it should not stand," Davis said.

Wednesday's ruling came in response to a lawsuit by California doctor Michael Newdow, a 49-year-old atheist eager to spare his eight-year-old daughter from having to hear her classmates say the pledge. *AFP*



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China on brink of 'explosive' AIDS epidemic, says UN report

BEIJING—Ten million people could be infected with HIV by the end of the decade as China approaches the brink of an "explosive" epidemic of the disease, according to a UN study.

The country is "on the verge of a catastrophe that could result in unimaginable suffering, economic loss and social devastation," said the 89-page report titled "HIV/AIDS: China's Titanic Peril."

Government data last year showed 30,736 people were confirmed to be carrying the HIV virus, 1,594 were reported with full-blown AIDS and 684 people had died from illnesses related to the disease, said the study, released on Thursday.

But the study estimated that the number of people with the AIDS virus was closer to between 800,000 and 1.5 million last year—most of them infected through intravenous drug use or poor sanitation in China's blood-buying industry.

The figure could soar to 10 million by 2010, said Siri Tellier, chairwoman of the UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS in China, which prepared the report.

"It is more than a disease . . . it's a disaster," she said. "Once you have a certain concentration of it, it will hit the general population."

The report recommends the Chinese government spend more on education and prevention and bring the topic openly before the public to remove the stigma of infection so that more people would seek testing and treatment.

"The virus is still spreading, and we need to marshal all our resources in a very different way if we want to stop it," said Kerstin Leitner, the United Nations resident coordinator in China. *AP*

G8 launches new plan for Africa

KANANASKIS, Canada—Group of Eight leaders launched their long-awaited action plan for Africa Thursday, promising a new dawn for the continent, but aid activists said the promises amounted to peanuts.

Leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia and the United States issued a G8 Africa Action Plan to drive the continent's future development after meeting in this Canadian Rockies resort with four African leaders.

"This is not old-fashioned aid, it is a genuine partnership for the renewal of Africa," British Prime Minister Tony Blair said after the launch.

"We know it is not possible to change Africa unless Africa itself takes responsibility for leading that process of change."

But activists said the G8 commitments amounted to very little.

"They are offering peanuts to Africa and repackaged peanuts at that," said Oxfam international advocacy director Phil Twyford.

"The thing that is most disappointing is that the leaders have spent the last year talking up this event as the moment they were going to deliver for Africa," Twyford said.

"When it comes down to the wire they could not get their act together. They have given us a report that is full of repackaged, recycled old initiatives and good intentions," he said.

The G8 action plan responds to a pledge by Africans to produce clean government and strong economic policies in return for rich nations' renewed investment and official state aid to battle HIV/AIDS, fight poverty and provide basic education for all.

Blair summed up the difference between old programs and this one, saying: "I think the past has been based on a very passive relationship between us giving money and them receiving it.

"What we're saying is from now on that's not the deal anymore. The deal is we're equal partners in this process." *AFP*

A14
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Ombudsman sets probe of execs who blocked arrest of Ecleo Jr.

By **Jolene R. Bulambot and Kathy I. Navarro**
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY--Ombudsman Aniano Desierto has ordered a fact-finding investigation of reports that some public officials allegedly attempted to delay the arrest of cult leader Ruben Ecleo Jr.

He told reporters yesterday that the Fact-Finding Intelligence and Investigation Division (FFIID) would look into the possible liabilities of these public officials for obstruction of justice.

The FFIID, he said, was tasked to conduct the investigation based on media reports. Desierto said he expected the FFIID to submit a report in 15 days.

Desierto, however, refused to divulge the names of the government officials who allegedly exerted influence to stop the implementation of the warrant arrest against Ecleo, "supreme master" of the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association (PBMA).

He said he would ask Supt. Alberto Olario, Caraga police chief, to submit a report especially on allegations that some policemen in Surigao del Norte extended favors to the Ecleos.

Reports said some policemen served as Ecleo's bodyguards at the time when he was hiding on Dinagat Island, making it difficult for authorities to arrest him.

Desierto also asked the Crusade Against Violence (CAV) to furnish him a copy of their complaint against Surigao del Norte Rep. Glenda Ecleo, Ruben Jr.'s mother, before the House committee on ethics.

The CAV in the Visayas, composed of families of victims of heinous crimes, filed a complaint against the congresswoman for obstruction of justice and grave abuse of authority.

The complaint was based on reports that she allegedly exerted her influence upon members of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) 7.

Representative Ecleo allegedly stopped the group of Supt. Edwin Diocos, CIDG chief for Central Visayas, from conducting a raid on their mansion, when his team first arrived on May 25 to implement the arrest warrant against her son who was charged with parricide for the death of his wife, Alona.

Some 50,000 PBMA members blocked the policemen from entering the mansion and signified their intention to die for their master.

Olario earlier said he blamed Representative Ecleo if bloodshed would result in the arrest of her son after several negotiations for Ruben Jr.'s surrender were aborted.

He earlier threatened to file administrative and criminal complaints against her if bloodshed occurred.

Olario's fears came true. Sixteen cult members and one policeman died on June 18 when policemen assaulted the Ecleos' bastion. Ruben Jr. eventually surrendered to authorities.

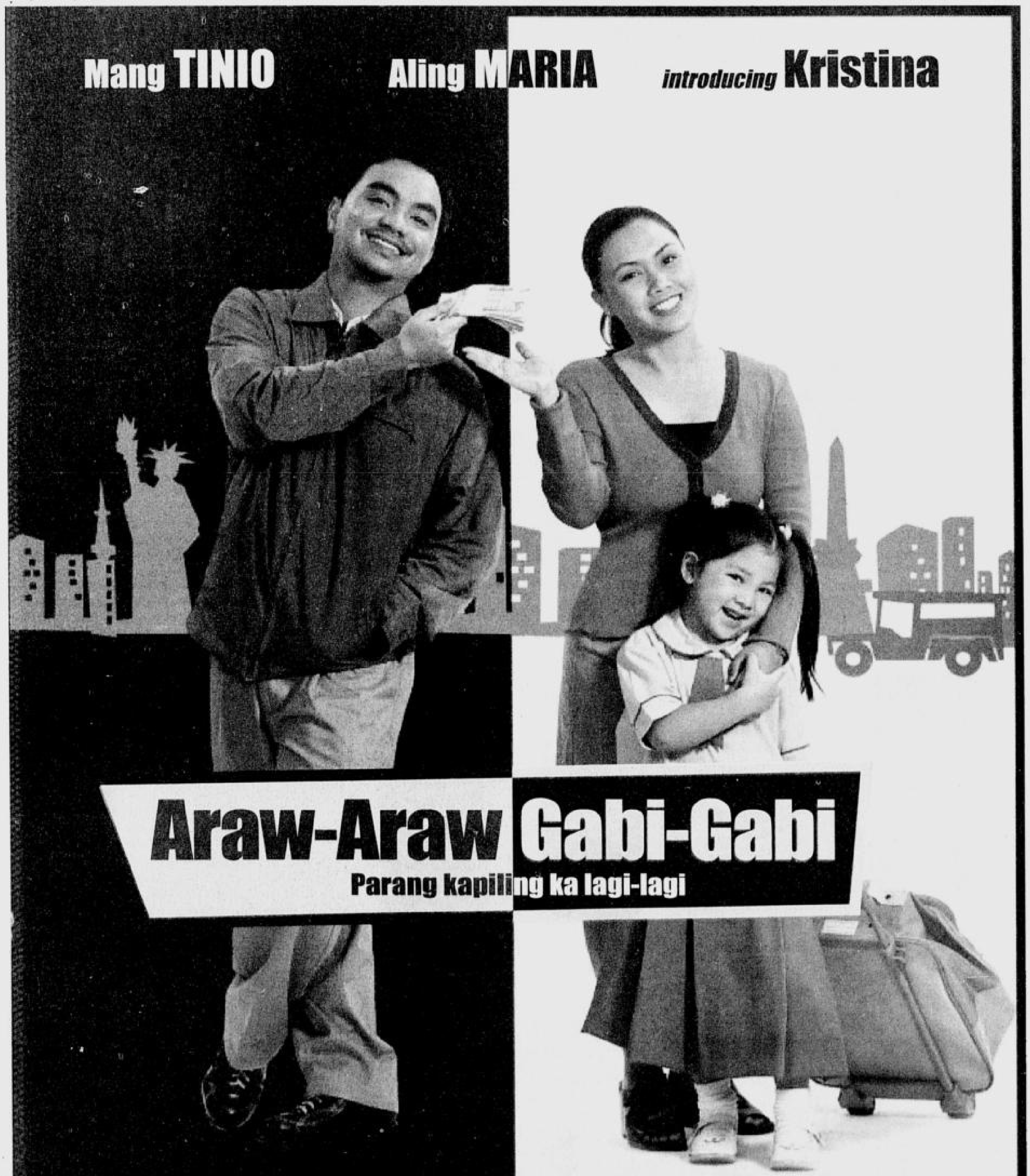
He is now detained at the Bagong Buhay Rehabilitation Center in Cebu City. Aside from the parricide charges, Ruben Jr. is charged with possession of illegal drugs after three packs of shabu were found in his suitcase during a search.

But for the first time since his incarceration on June 21, Representative Ecleo visited her son on Thursday night.

Upon seeing his mother, the "supreme master" reportedly cried. Supt. Lita Quilaton, city jail warden, described the reunion of mother and son as "dramatic."

"Mommy, mommy, I miss you. I miss the kids," Quilaton quoted Ruben Jr. as telling his mother.

Representative Ecleo arrived at the BBRC past 8 p.m. on Thursday right after the evening headcount. She was with her bodyguard and a staff member of their legal counsel, Orlando Salatandre. She only stayed for less than 30 minutes.



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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Eastern Visayas and Eastern Mindanao will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Cloudy with rains	Hi 33° Lo 25°
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Hi 24° Lo 16°
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Hi 36° Lo 26°
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Hi 34° Lo 25°
Clark Zone	Cloudy with rains	Hi 34° Lo 23°
Tagaytay	Cloudy with rains	Hi 30° Lo 23°
Legazpi	Cloudy with rains	Hi 31° Lo 25°
Calapan	Cloudy with rains	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with rain	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Roxas	Cloudy with rains	Hi 30° Lo 25°
Cebu	Cloudy with rains	Hi 30° Lo 25°
Tacloban	Cloudy with rains	Hi 28° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos	Cloudy with rains	Hi 29° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Cloudy with rains	Hi 30° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with rain	Hi 31° Lo 23°
Davao	Cloudy with rains	Hi 31° Lo 25°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/02/09/02

ROUNDUP

Grenade blast hurts 3

KABACAN, Cotabato—Three persons were seriously wounded in Barangay Kayaga here when a grenade exploded in the middle of a local basketball match on Wednesday evening. Insp. Abner Banaybanay, Kabacan police chief, identified the victims as Joseph Mamaluba, Norsisa Limba and Mama Sulay. Witnesses said a man riding on a motorcycle tossed the grenade. Banaybanay said they were still trying to determine the motive for the grenade attack.
Edwin Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Unresolved cases down

DAVAO CITY—The Office of the Ombudsman for Mindanao said it has the smallest number of pending administrative and criminal cases filed against government officials in the country. Ombudsman Antonio Valenzuela attributed this "secret" to a government "office blessed with dedicated, honest, hardworking, and efficient employees." Valenzuela said the number of unresolved cases in his office went down to only 120 from the 366 administrative cases filed in 1995. Also, the number of pending criminal cases went down by 86 percent to 227 from a high of 1,631 in 1995. Majority of those charged were mayors and regional directors. Valenzuela said the Ombudsman has so far sanctioned 466 respondents, 62 of whom were high-ranking officials.
Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Anti-dengue habit urged

TUGUEGARAO CITY—Health officials here urged residents to practice the four o'clock habit of cleaning houses and yards after three people died of dengue fever and 110 others were brought to hospitals. Dr. Erlberto Policar, regional health director, said 48 dengue cases were reported in Cagayan, 15 in Isabela, 40 in Nueva Vizcaya, and three in Quirino.
Estanislao Caldez, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

20 girls rescued

SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CITY—Police rescued 20 girls, mostly from this province, from white slavery on Monday. The team of Chief Insp. Eliseo Saquilayan of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group in Malolos town said the girls, whose ages range from 17 to 23, were working in a KTV bar in San Manuel in Isabela. The girls said a certain Mila Fernandez recruited them and promised to give them good jobs. Fernandez was charged with engaging in prostitution and white slave trade and corruption of minors.
Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk

11 hurt in collision

CALUMPIT, Bulacan—Eleven people, including four children, were seriously hurt on Thursday when a jeep collided with another jeep on MacArthur Highway in Barangay Pio Cruscoza here. Police said the Calumpit-bound owner-type jeep driven by Neil Esmundo tried to avoid a car when it hit an approaching jeep bound for Malolos town. *Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Coco insurance hiked

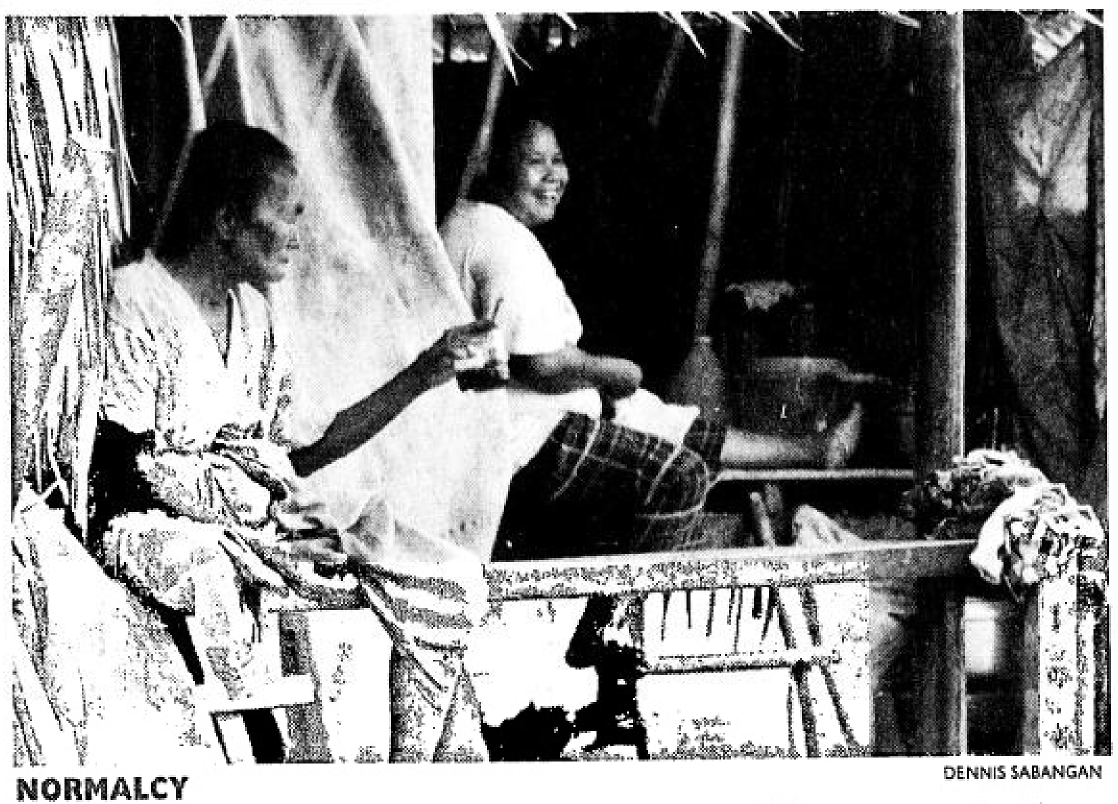
LEGAZPI CITY—The Philippine Coconut Authority said close to 100,000 coconut farmers in the Bicol region would benefit from upgraded insurance policies. Minda Arellano, PCA Bicol regional manager, said at least 99,476 farmer-beneficiaries in the region who were originally insured for P5,000 each can now claim their new insurance policies in the amount of P10,000. Arellano said the additional amount would come from the Coconut Industry Investment Oil Mill Board, a private entity where a portion of the huge coconut levy fund was invested. She said the PCA wants to provide insurance to about 345,000 coconut farmers and farm workers in Bicol in a region-wide enlistment to last until July 15. *Roly Emblle, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Cops arrest suspect

SORSOGON CITY—Bacon police led by Senior Insp. Briccio Cordova and barangay tanods of San Juan here arrested on Wednesday a suspect in a frustrated homicide case. Senior Supt. Arne de los Santos, Sorsogon police chief, identified the suspect as Joseph Dioneda who was arrested through a warrant of arrest issued by Judge Jose Madrid of the Municipal Trial Court Branch 52. Dioneda is now detained at the Bacon police station. *Emir Gamis, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Pusher nabbed

SORSOGON CITY—Joint elements of the Sorsogon City police and the 504th Criminal Investigation and Detection Group led by SPO1 Camilo Murillo and SPO2 Delmar Badar arrested a suspected drug pusher in a buy-bust operation on Wednesday. Arrested was Raffy Lopez, 20, a resident of Barangay Tugos here. Lopez was allegedly delivering a small plastic sachet containing shabu to Murillo who posed as a buyer. Police also recovered from Lopez 14 small plastic sachets containing shabu and P200 in marked money. Lopez was brought to the Sorsogon police station for further investigation.
Emir Gamis, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau



DENNIS SABANGAN

NORMALCY

Residents of Sibuco, Zamboanga del Norte try to keep a normal life as government soldiers pass by their villages in search for Abu Sayyaf bandits.

Study to probe mercury, cyanide contamination

ZAMBOANGA CITY—The Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Western Mindanao has started a 30-day survey that would determine the extent of mercury and cyanide contamination in the region.

Teotimo Redulla, DENR director for Western Mindanao, told reporters during the recent Kapihan sa Orchid Garden Hotel here, that the department has fielded at least 50 surveyors and 50 foresters to at least three areas of the Zamboanga Peninsula to determine the extent of the damage caused by extensive mining operations in the area.

The area included in the survey was Barangay Canatuan in Siocon, Zamboanga del Norte, Balabac in Bayog, Zamboanga del Sur and Bunguiao, this city.

Redulla said that the survey's objective was to find out how extensive the damage was so that appropriate solutions could be adopted and implemented.

The survey group would gather water and soil samples in the identified areas for laboratory analysis.

Earlier, anti-mining groups told President Macapagal-Arroyo, during her recent visit to Siocon town, that mining operations in their area were causing pollution and have been endangering the health of residents.

Also, in a manifesto sent to the President through Gov. Isagani Amatong, Siocon town residents urged the government to bar Canadian firm Toronto Ventures Inc. (TVI) from operating.

The residents said the area where the firm plans to conduct mining operations intrudes in watershed areas.

Siocon Mayor Cesar Soriano has even urged members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan to support their move against mining.

"We don't need a transnational corporation which would only destroy our lands and waters. We don't want Siocon to experience another tragedy like the Marcopper (incident) and leave our children and descendants to suffer the horrific consequences under infinite years of environmental destruction," he said.

Earlier this year, Siocon residents also tore down the structures of illegal miners in Barangay Canatuan.

Their action came after the DENR's Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) found out that the waste coming out of the miners' ball mills have caused pollution in the area.

In small-scale mining, gold is separated by grinding the ore and subjecting it to high volumes of mercury and cyanide, which are both highly poisonous substances. ***Ed General with reports from Lullie Micabalo, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Protests swamp Iloilo 'bikini car wash'

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—Militant groups here are calling for a permanent ban on businesses featuring scantily-clad women after a car wash with female workers in bikinis was ordered close by Iloilo City Mayor Jerry Treñas.

About 100 protesters led by the women's group Gabriela and the militant Bagong Alyansang Makabayan on Thursday picketed the controversial bikini car wash of the Marina Restaurant that serviced customers featuring young women in two-piece swimsuits.

Gabriela and Bayan said they would hold continuous protest actions against establishments that use "cheap gimmicks that degrade women" similar to the bikini car wash.

The protesters, who were carrying red placards and streamers, later posted a symbolic closure order in front of the restaurant after an hour-long program denouncing the restaurant for "using women just to earn profits."

Lucy Francisco, spokesperson of Gabriela-Panay, called on the restaurant management to provide jobs that did not require women to "parade their bodies."

Several sectors, including the Church, raised vehement objections to the controversial wash along the Benigno Aquino Avenue in this city when it opened June 1.

The young women of the car wash, mostly in their late teens, were dressed in colorful two-pieces while they sponged seven to 12 cars usually with male drivers from 3 to 6 p.m. every day.

The bikini car wash costs more than twice the regular service done by male personnel who are fully clothed.

The women were paid P400 each for a three-hour work. They said they were "enjoying" their work, which helped them support their families.

Treñas ordered a stop to the controversial service on Wednesday after it was found to be operating without a business permit.

He said he would not approve future applications for car wash establishments with bikini-clad women.

The restaurant had applied for a business permit for the car wash last June 13. The business firm can operate while they comply with the requirements within 15 days. But the application did not mention the bikini car wash service.

Ross Paul Gorriceta, owner of the Marina Restaurant, said they would respect the mayor's decision. He said they were still considering the bikini car wash as one of their "marketing options."

"I cannot say whether we will continue or stop (the bikini car wash) in the future but we will consider the mayor's decision and the public's opinion," said Gorriceta in a phone interview.

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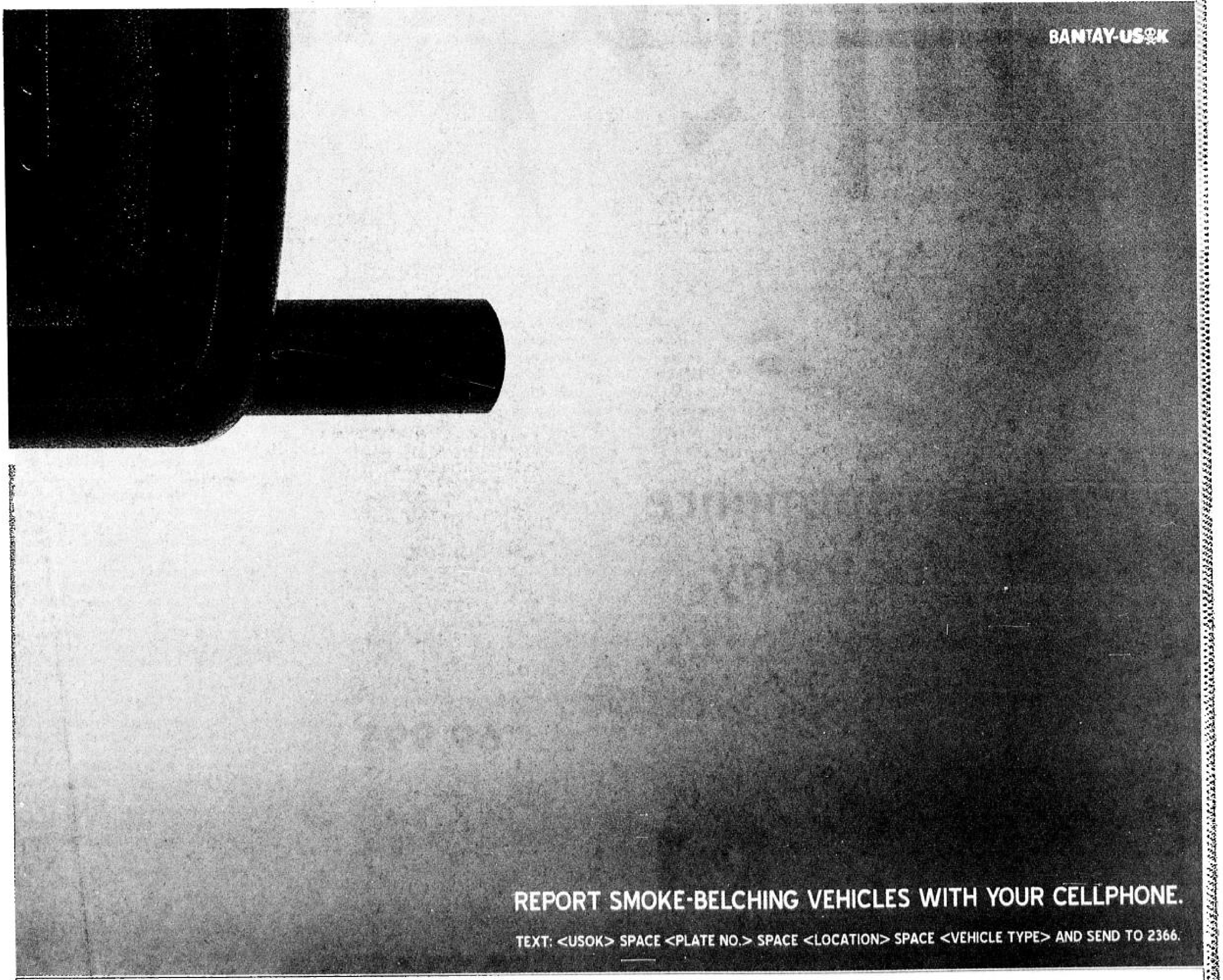

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INQUIRER Visayas
Editor Jun Bandayrel ● *Bureau Chief* Edralyn L. Benedicto

‘Malnourished is not nice to hear’

Changing the definition of malnutrition in Negros

By Carla P. Gomez
Bacolod City

SEVERELY malnourished children reduced to skin and bones are no longer a common sight in Negros Occidental’s government hospitals.

The situation is unlike in the 1980s when Joel Abong, the boy with glazed eyes, protruding ribs and thin frail legs, became the symbol of hunger in the once sugar-rich province.

Today, however, the figures are as haunting as those of the past. Almost half a million children are malnourished, based on a 2002 health survey.

About 20,000 of the children are considered severely and moderately underweight even as local health officials insist that they no longer have any severe cases of malnutrition similar to those in the 1980s.

When the report of the extent of malnutrition in Negros Occidental came out in mid-June, health experts got sidetracked by a debate on the definition of a malnourished child.

It started when acting provincial health officer Luisa Efren declared that not all children weighed and found to be moderately and severely underweight are malnourished.

Marilyn Tumilbas, nutritionist and senior dietician of the Department of Health regional office, immediately disputed Efren’s definition. Citing the Philippine Reference Standard, she said children found severely and moderately underweight are suffering from third- and second-degree malnutrition.

Dr. Remedios Ortaliz, executive director of the Bulig Foundation and representative of nongovernment organizations to the Bacolod City Health Board, was also aghast. “Why are provincial health officials in denial and trying to change the definition of malnutrition?” she asked.

“Denial is a dangerous thing because it could lead to an inadequate response to the problem,” she warned. “If officials tasked with addressing the problems of children feed top government officials the wrong information because they are in denial, there will not be immediate and adequate response to address the problem.”

Ortaliz recalled that in the early 1980s, officials were also in denial about the malnutrition problem in Negros when the story of Joel Abong broke out in the national and international media.

Ironically, Efren was not even aware of the child’s story. “I am sorry I don’t know who Joel Abong is. I cannot comment, I don’t know who he is.”

Backtracks

This week, however, Efren backtracked. She admitted that moderately and severely underweight children are malnourished, and that based on the figures this year, the situation is “alarming” but “controllable.”

Barely a month after it released its 2001 survey indicating some 10,000 children in Negros Occidental are severely malnourished, the Provincial Health Office released this week its 2002 report.

The report placed at 20,662 the number of children aged not more than six years old who were found to be severely and moderately underweight or third- and second-degree malnourished.

Based on the Philippine Reference Standard, children weighing 76-90 percent of their ideal weight for their age are mildly undernourished; 61-75 percent, moderately underweight; and 60 percent and less, severely underweight, Efren said.

The number of severely and moderately underweight children in the 2002 report was 5.37 percent of the province’s population of children aged up to six years old.

But Efren stressed that the number is declining and that there are no children suffering from severe cases associated with marasmus or kwashiorkor as what happened in the 1980s.

Marasmus, a form of protein-calorie malnutrition, chiefly occurs among very young children. It is characterized by growth retardation (in weight more than in height) and progressive wasting of subcutaneous fat and muscle, according to a definition by *britannica.com*

Kwashiorkor, on the other hand, is a condition resulting from inadequate protein intake. Continued protein deprivation

SEE MALNOURISHED/P17

CHILDREN like this, crippled by pain and hunger, were common sights in Bacolod when the sugar industry in Negros Occidental collapsed. FILE/REUTER

Program keeps villagers from losing hope

By Jani Arnaiz
Maasin City

MICHAEL is 8 years old, yet he does not look like one. Standing only slightly over two feet, he looks every inch a lost child. He could hardly say his name, more so his correct age.

According to Dr. Jerome Paler, a private medical practitioner, Michael is a classic picture of a protein-calorie malnourished child—pale, pot-bellied and has thin limbs with disproportionately elongated body and flat buttocks.

Michael is the most affected among the 90 children in Barangay Sta. Rosa in Maasin City who are nutritionally deprived. “Of the 90, only four are nominally healthy,” Paler revealed.

A product of unwanted pregnancy, Michael was left by his mother after birth to the care of his jobless father, who, in turn, left him to the care of a *hilot* (midwife) after finding another partner.

The *hilot* could not sustain the rearing of the month-old child and entrusted him to his paternal grandfather.

However, the man’s failing health prevented him from caring for the baby.

A neighbor, Ernesto, was so touched by the child’s wretched existence that he decided to care for him, although he could barely eke out a living as a laborer.

Vicious triumvirate

Paler said Michael was a victim of the “vicious triumvirate” of poor nutrition, recurrent infection and massive parasitism borne out of eating anything—from strands, sand to stones—just to fill a hungry stomach.

One time, Michael was reportedly seen eating charcoal on the dirt ground below his grandfather’s house. No one noticed the baby fall through a crack in the bamboo floor of the house until several hours later.

For a year, the baby was expelling bloody stools, recalled Paler. The rectum was teeming with tiny wriggling whipworms, he added.

Michael’s sad story is now a thing of the past. He is recuperating from severe malnutrition and beginning to sparkle with life, under the care of Dr. Paler.

But, the doctor said, the rehabilitation program for Michael would be tedious and painstaking. “The process will be long and hard and can take years to institute,” he said.

But he is optimistic that eventually, Michael will be “physically sound, emotionally fit and spiritually prepared.”

Credit for Michael’s care does not only go to Paler. It is mainly due to the program initiated by the Southern Leyte chapter of the Couples for Christ (CFC), a Catholic Church-based lay organization.

The CFC members learned about Michael’s case when they initiated a community renewal program in Sta. Rosa, a predominantly poor community.

The group’s child-care program is only part of what it is doing in Sta. Rosa. It intends to build 37 houses for the 37 poorest households, whose incomes only averaged P1,500 a month, derived from marginal farming and, at

SEE PROGRAM/P17

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1456, Series of 2002.

Program keeps villagers from losing hope

From page 16

times, running errands and performing carpentry jobs in the city.

Found in a plane beside a steep hill, the village is a 45-minute walk from the national road from Barangay Ibarra, about five kilometers from the city proper.

Gawad Kalinga

There may be poorer communities in the province, but Sta. Rosa by the "grace of God," was chosen by the CFC as its first recipient of the Gawad Kalinga (provide care) program.

The program, which seeks to ease the suffering of children in extremely poor communities, is tied up to bigger CFC projects for street children (Sagip), youth rehabilitation (Siga) and shelter improvement (Tatag).

Since it was launched on April 20, the CFC, through its members and volunteers, has already completed 17 houses in Sta. Rosa. Each house is worth P30,000.

In Ormoc City, the CFC has also undertaken a shelter program in Barangay Tambulilid. This month, 61 houses have been built in the area.

Doni Santiago, ministry head of A Network of the Church of the Poor (Ancop), the umbrella ministry of the Gawad Kalinga, said the Ormoc program started in March with funds coming from their own pockets and from donors.

A counterpart fund for 30 houses came from President Macapagal-Arroyo's social fund.

CFC members from Tacloban City and its adjoining towns undertook the Tambulilid project. At least 300 CFC members have volunteered their services every Sunday to build the shelters.

For the Sta. Rosa shelter project, Southern Leyte Gov. Rosette Lerias has committed P300,000 from her social fund. The money is enough to build 10 houses.

Accountability

BREAK AWAY

Ivan P. Suansing

THERE was little anyone could do for the 16 members of the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association (PBMA) who were killed during the assault on Dinagat Island on June 18. They wanted to offer their lives for their "supreme master" and die as martyrs in a blaze of glory, and they got their wish.

But many people couldn't help shed tears for the four Bacolod clan members who were slaughtered in Mandaue City on the same day that police, after weeks of pussyfooting, finally made the decisive move.

It took the lone assassin, a cult member, less than a minute to end the victims' anguish over the death of their beloved Alona, and reunite them all in the next life. They had been made to pay for defying "god" and forcing him to answer for a crime only a beast could commit.

Police acted quick enough to catch up with the fleeing gunman and sharp enough to finish him off. But where were they all the time? Given the suspect's influence and his fanatics' capacity for violence, one would expect members of the Bacolod family, including a witness to Alona's murder, to be under police protection. They weren't.

For this lapse, police and justice officials should be held accountable.

While politicians made their presence felt, it wasn't to protect the underdog. Sen. Robert Barbers was in the center of events but only to make sure he wouldn't lose the PBMA vote.

First, he delayed the arrest of "supreme master" Ruben Ecleo Jr. by offering to negotiate for his surrender. I didn't know a warrant of arrest was negotiable.

Then, when Ecleo was forced to yield (he didn't voluntarily give up as Barbers would make it appear later on) after a fierce gun battle that left many of his supposedly invincible soldiers dead, the honorable senator was there to provide escort services all the way to Camp Crame.

At the burial of the slain Bacolod clansmen this week, Crusade Against Violence president Karina Agarao asked, "why are the politicians on the side of criminals?"

* * *

NO MALICE. University of the Philippines President Francisco Nemenzo has rescued six campus editors who were earlier punished for publishing articles that sent the blood pressure of three of their teachers shooting up through the roof.

In a verdict dated June 18, 2001, Nemenzo threw out the decision of the UP-Cebu City student disciplinary tribunal suspending for one month the six editors for "gross and deliberate courtesy."

Nemenzo noted that the editors of the "Tug-ani", the official student publication of UP-Cebu City, were "impelled by a desire to explain the delays in the publication of the paper and their reasons for criticizing the process of selection of its editor-in-chief."

"There was no finding of malice," Nemenzo ruled, adding that as public officials the members of Board of Examiners were subject to scrutiny.

Citing *Ayer Productions v. Capulong*, the UP president said, "a limited intrusion into a person's privacy has long been regarded as permissible where that person is a public figure and the information to be published about him constitutes matters of public character."

The members of the Board of Examiners, the target of the "Tug-ani" tirade, "are public officers and criticism of their actions are considered privileged under the doctrine of fair comment."

The decision of the Student Disciplinary Tribunal, Nemenzo said, "was bereft of any factual finding whether there was a reckless disregard for the truth." It was based on conjectures, he said.

Nemenzo ordered Dr. Jesus Juario, UP-Cebu City dean, to include Gay Abenir, Fatima dela Cerna, Wilfredo Rodolfo III, and Ma. Rosario Consuelo Tumulak on the list of graduating students for the approval of the Board of Regents.

He also ordered the immediate reinstatement of Carla Camille Basa-Martinez and Mary Louise Eugenio as students in good standing.

'Malnourished is not nice to hear'

From page 16

results in growth failure, loss of muscle mass, generalized swelling (edema) and decreased immunity. A large, protuberant belly is common. Skin conditions such as dermatitis, changes in pigmentation and thinning of hair also occur. Shock and coma precede death.

Figures don't lie

The PHO report said malnourished children under seven years old number 437,041 in the 19 towns and 12 cities of Negros Occidental. The figure represents 98.97 percent of the 384,468 children who were weighed by the PHO in the first half of 2002.

The report said 1,396 of the children were severely underweight or suffering from third-degree malnutrition, while 19,266 were moderately underweight or were classified as second-degree cases.

It showed that Balabagan town had 28 severely underweight children; Calatrava, 41; Candoni, 17; Cauayan, 107; EB Magalona, 29; Hinigaran, 56; Hinoba-an, 42; Ilog, 29; Isabela, 62; La Castellana, 89; Manapla, 30; Moises Padilla, 45; Murcia, 31; Pontevedra, seven; Pulupandan, 19; Don Salvador Benedicto, 30; San Enrique, 19; Toboso, 37; and Valladolid, 10.

Bago City had 27; Cadiz, 91; Kabankalan, 118; La Carlota, seven; Sagay, 61; San Carlos, 56; Silay, 37; Talisay, 28; Victorias, 43; Escalante, 71; Himamaylan, 76; and Sipalay, 53.

Children suffering from second-degree malnutrition are also found in the 19 towns and 12 cities of the province.

Those found to be mildly underweight or suffering from first-degree malnutrition totaled 101,413 or 26.38 percent, while overweight children are 11,110 or 2.89 percent.

'Not nice to hear'

Efren said the word "underweight" was used in the classification "because malnourished is not nice to hear."

However, she gave assurance that the provincial government was addressing the problem. She said the PHO has feeding programs for malnourished children, including providing them with micro-nutrient supplements.

The mothers of these children are also taught how to prepare the right kind of food for them, Efren said.

She said the malnutrition problem was caused mainly by food insufficiency. That is why, she added, Gov. Joseph Marañon has made food security his priority project.

Other causes of malnutrition are inadequate maternal child health care and failure to immunize children, Efren said.

Following the release of the PHO report, Marañon convened the Provincial Nutrition Committee last week to draw up an action plan to address the malnutrition problem.

Among the courses of action agreed upon was the implementation of the Mother Craft Health and Nutrition Center-based feeding for 1,000 children who are severely and moderately underweight.

The program will target the 728 children in 19 municipalities who have been identified to be severely underweight, while 272 children in the moderately underweight category will be included to enable the PHO to meet its target of treating 1,000 children.

The program will have a budget of P25 per child a day or a total of P2.250 million for the three months of implementation.

Marañon said he would ask the mayors to give counterpart funds for the program.

The feeding at the centers is aimed at ensuring close monitoring of the children's health and to educate the parents on proper nutrition. The program components are feeding, education and activities such as food production, the committee said.

The target implementation date is mid-July, the governor said.

REDUCED to skin and bones, a child in a hospital at the height of starvation in sugarlandia in 1986. FILE PHOTO

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0747 Series of 2002

AN APPEAL TO HER EXCELLENCY
President GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
FROM THE SMALL-SCALE MINERS OF MT. DIWALWAL

For over 18 years, we, the owners, operators and workers of small scale mining here in Mt. Diwalwal, Monkayo, Compotela Valley Province have been harassed by big businessmen, local officials, lawmakers, the police and the military all profiting in this biggest gold mine area in the country.

We, together with our families numbering some 40,000 who fully believe in your leadership and support your administration, have been living here for almost two decades.

Now, for the first time, we are being recognized by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through the efforts of Secretary Heherson Alvarez.

Secretary Alvarez is finding ways to consolidate all our operations to contain pollution coming from our mining processes while recognizing that mining is our only means of livelihood.

But these initiatives are being blocked by politicians like Congressman Prospero "Butch" Pichay who are seen protecting the interest of big businessmen.

Cong. Pichay comes from the 1st District of Surigao del Sur and from your party, the Lakas-NUCD-UMDP. He is not from our district. He does not represent us and our interest, contrary to what he claims.

While your administration is creating more jobs for the marginalized, your partymate wants to rob us of our livelihood by intervening in areas outside of his district and meddling in the affairs of Mt. Diwalwal which is not his concern.

This is something that must not be encouraged. Congressmen should not exceed their mandate by representing big interest groups instead of protecting the working people's interest.

Cong. Pichay is not for the people but for big miners and loggers like Teodoro Bernardino, the businessman who owns Southeast Gold Mining Corporation (SEM), a large-scale mining company in Mt. Diwalwal.

Bernardino also owns PICOP Resources, Inc. now lobbying with the DENR for its vast logging and forest interest of over 184,000 hectares.

Lately, Cong. Pichay is opposing the confirmation of Secretary Alvarez at the Commission on Appointments who is so far the only DENR Secretary who understood our plight.

This is not the job of a congressman but a lawyer of big interest groups. Let us do away with the politics of big vested interest so that this nation can finally move with the small people.

We appeal to Your Excellency to intercede on our behalf and recognize our legitimate needs.

We believe in you and your promise of good governance. Please help us find a fair and just solution to the Mt. Diwalwal gold.

Thank you.

1 ANGUERA [illegible] MT. DIWATA EMPLOYEE
2 [illegible] Romeo — Mt. Diwata Employer
3 WILFREDO [illegible] — Employee - Mt. Diwata
4 DANNY MINGLANA — Mt. Diwata - Employee
5. Jaime [illegible] " "
6. [illegible] Plaza — employee
7. [illegible] — Mt. Diwata - [illegible]
8. [illegible] — MT. DIWATA — Miner
9. [illegible] — MT. DIWATA — Miner
10 [illegible] — MT. DIWATA — MINER
11 DANILO DUCAY MT. DIWATA WATER TENDER
12 JOHN [illegible] MT. DIWATA — RADIO OPERATOR
13. OMAR [illegible] MT. DIWATA — MONITORING
14 Samuel [illegible] MT. DIWATA — [illegible] OPERATOR
15 DANNY ZAPANTA MT. DIWATA — PLUMBER
16 JOEL PAMAGON MT. DIWATA — H MINER
17 [illegible] ALEGRIA MT. DIWATA ELECTRICIAN
18 JERRY GODINEZ MT. DIWATA [illegible]
19 [illegible] Eddie MT. DIWATA, EMP.
20 [illegible], JOSE P. [illegible]
21 ANGUERA, JOSEPHINE MT. DIWATA EMPLOYEE
22 [illegible] MT. DIWATA EMPLOYEE
23 [illegible] JR. MT. DIWATA / EMPLOYEE
24 [illegible] MT. DIWATA EMPLOYEE
25. John [illegible] — " —
26. [illegible]
27. [illegible] MT. DIWATA / [illegible]
28. [illegible] MT. DIWATA / [illegible]
29 [illegible] MT. DIWATA / [illegible]
30. [illegible] ILUD MT. DIWATA MINER
31 CHITO [illegible] MT. DIWATA / [illegible]
32 CARLITO [illegible], C. MT. DIWATA / LABOR
33 ISABELO [illegible] MT. DIWATA / HAMMERMAN
34 Raymund [illegible] Mt. Diwata / [illegible]
35 TEODORO DOMPOL JR. MT. DIWATA / Monitoring
36. [illegible], C. MT. DIWATA / CARPENTER
37 Ana Marie [illegible] Mt. Diwata / [illegible] — Ana

MIGUEL B. [illegible] — MT. DIWATA COALITION CHAIRMAN
JERRY [illegible] — [illegible] - MT. DIWATA DISTRICT CHAIRMAN MISMA VICE PRES.
JOSEPH ANTHONY [illegible] — CHAIRMAN, CRISIS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - MISMA, INC.
[illegible] S. [illegible] — Chairman [illegible]
ANECITO [illegible] SALEK Sr. — P.T.C.A. PRESIDENT [illegible] MT. DIWATA
[illegible] — [illegible] MT. DIWATA [illegible]
[illegible] — PUROK II CHAIRMAN
[illegible] — PUROK 25 CHAIRMAN
[illegible] — [illegible] P-13 MT. DIWATA
[illegible] V. [illegible] — MISMA SETTLEMENT DISTRICT OFFICIAL
[illegible] — [illegible]
[illegible] — PUROK 1 [illegible]
[illegible] B. [illegible] — MT. DIWATA MEAT & FISH VENDOR'S ASSN. (PRESIDENT) TIN # 007-212-937
[illegible] — [illegible] PRES. CHAIRMAN PRES.
[illegible] — [illegible]
ROGER E. VILLAR — [illegible] ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH MT. DIWATA
[illegible] — MISMA, DISTRICT [illegible]
MARIO [illegible] — V.P. - OPERATIONS [illegible] SMALL SCALE MINING

[illegible] M. CABRERA — CHAIRMAN PUROK-7 KABASARAN DISTRICT
JAVENCIO [illegible] — CHAIRMAN PUROK-9 [illegible] DIST
Margarita C. [illegible] — Mt. Diwata [illegible]
DIONESIO [illegible] — TASK FORCE [illegible] CHAIRMAN
[illegible] — [illegible]
WILLIAM [illegible] — [illegible] MT. DIWATA, MINING
Guillermo Carmona — R I-A [illegible]
Roberto C. [illegible] — MINING - President

paid advt.

Some Palace forces want me out–Guingona

From page A1

demotion.

Gonzalez also said there was no rule or tradition that the Vice President should be foreign secretary.

But Gonzalez said he saw no reason why Guingona should quit the DFA, considering that his policy differences with the President over the RP-US Balikatan war games had been ironed out.

Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. confirmed Malacañang's plan to give Guingona another post in exchange for his giving up the foreign affairs portfolio.

De Venecia said the President's letter accepting Guingona's resignation was genuine but was "prematurely released" by Afable before a new position for Guingona had been finalized and accepted.

"Both Vice President Guingona and Secretary Afable are correct (in their positions)," De Venecia said in a phone interview from the airport in Osaka, Japan, where he was to take a plane to Russia for an official function.

Suspicion

The opposition was initially suspected of having a hand in the release of the letter signed by the President and dated June 26.

Jose Rufino, Ms Macapagal's adviser on political affairs, aired the suspicion in an interview yesterday over RMN radio.

"I also have a suspicious mind. I told myself it might be another destabilization happening here," said Rufino, who appeared to be thinking out loud.

He said this was his first reaction Thursday amid the confusion that resulted from Malacañang's announcement that the President had accepted Guingona's resignation although the latter denied having quit.

"It's hard to believe that it came from inside or among us. It may be the opposition sowing disorder," Rufino said when asked to explain the circumstances behind the preparation and signing of the letter.

He admitted that "it is hard to point fingers or speculate." But "if there's a boo-boo, at least it was contained," he added.

When told that Afable was apparently taking the fall to save the administration's face, Rufino said: "Sometimes because of a heavy workload, we're bound to slip up here and there."

He said he would like to believe that the President did not actually sign the letter although "somehow her signature appeared."

He noted that while such cases had happened in previous administrations, "I still don't believe she would be that drastic."

De Venecia, however, said that "there were plans for a number of scenarios" for Guingona, and that the latter had been aware of the discussions.

He said the acceptance letter should have been released after any of these scenarios had been completed.

De Venecia said one of the scenarios was to give Guingona a "senior leadership role in Mindanao" in addition to being a presidential adviser on foreign affairs.

He said the leadership role did not require the creation of a new position for Guingona.

"Mindanao is a major challenge to the administration, so there were proposals put forward for the Vice President to be given a senior leadership role here," he said.

The Speaker also said the "role" would include the economic development of a larger BIMP-Eaga (Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines-East Asian Growth Area), the completion of a peace agreement with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, ending the Abu Sayyaf problem and rebuilding Basilan and Sulu.

"(Guingona) cannot handle all these if he is DFA secretary at the same time," he explained.

In stride

Asked whether he was bothered that his office was sometimes bypassed concerning developments in foreign policy implementation, particularly in RP-US relations, Guingona answered in the negative.

"I take everything in stride," he said, smiling.

As to whether he was bothered that he seemed to be always the last to know, he said: "Well, I survived the first round"—a reference to Malacañang's retraction of the President's letter.

Asked if he would expect more "rounds," he said he would be ready for any eventuality: "*Que sera, sera.*"

He said there was no assurance that he would stay long at the DFA. "In life, I learned that there are only two things certain. These are death and taxes," he said.

Throughout the MOPC occasion, Guingona tried to show that all was well and even tried to make humor out of the situation.

"I was a wrong mistake!" he quipped, eliciting laughs from the audience.

He said Afable was "man enough" to admit the mistake of announcing his resignation based on the President's letter. But he said it would be up to the President on how to deal with Afable.

Asked to comment on the President's letter, Guingona said: "It doesn't bother me because such a letter should be preceded by a resignation letter."

He parried succeeding questions on the letter by citing Afable's admission of a mistake.

"Mistakes are made because we are human," Guingona said.

Faux pas

Negros Occidental Rep. Jun Lozada, chair of the House foreign affairs committee and vice president of the ruling Lakas, said the incident was an embarrassment that should now be set aside.

"Let's accept that this is a faux pas that has embarrassed our country. Now let's stand tall and show the world that we can bear our mistakes decently," he said.

Another Lakas congressman, Prospero Nograles of Davao, said the controversy should now be laid to rest.

"Every man or woman has a right to change his or her mind," he said, defending Malacañang's release and subsequent withdrawal of the President's letter.

"What's the big fuss? If the President signed that letter and then changed her mind, that's OK. Between damage and a wreck, it is better to choose damage," he added.

Nograles also said the incident might have caused Guingona "some wounds" but that these would now heal.

He said this would also not affect the solidarity of the ruling party chaired by Ms Macapagal and of which Guingona is president.

"We in Lakas are not spoiled brats. We are good soldiers," he said.

The Lakas source said the MLSA could not be approved without Guingona's signature as foreign secretary because it involved bilateral relations.

The source said a "clean draft" of the MLSA, which provides for the storage here of US military logistics and supplies, was ready for signing.

Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes recently admitted that a working group from the foreign affairs, defense and justice departments was due to finalize the draft MLSA, and that it would soon be presented to the secretaries of the three departments for approval and endorsement to the entire Cabinet.

Inquiries

Confusion reigned in the Philippine diplomatic community following Malacañang's announcement that Guingona had quit his post at the DFA.

A ranking official of the DFA said their offices were swamped with inquiring calls from Philippine missions in Washington, Tokyo, Beijing, Kuala Lumpur and Dhaka.

The US and Chinese Embassies also called the DFA, according to Foreign Undersecretary Lauro Baja.

A DFA officer, meanwhile, said the general sentiment at the department was shock and then ire.

"This is no way to treat him," said the DFA officer, who declined to be identified. "He is the Vice President after all, the No. 2 man in the country."

But Justice Secretary Hernando Perez said the President could fire Cabinet members like himself "anytime."

"We are serving at the pleasure of the President," he told reporters at a news briefing. "After all, all Cabinet secretaries are acting as the alter ego of the President."

Perez said that in the strict sense, advance notice for the termination of any Cabinet member was not "necessary" and was only a matter of courtesy.

"We can be replaced anytime . . . even without any justification," he said. "We are not elected officials. Our mandate comes from the President, not directly from the people." ***With reports from Carlito Pablo, Christine Avendaño and Michael Lim Ubac***

DFA PORTFOLIO

Drilon: So what's wrong with Ople?

By Rocky Nazareno

THERE is nothing wrong if Malacañang is considering Sen. Blas Ople as the new foreign secretary, Senate President Franklin Drilon said yesterday.

Drilon was reacting to speculations made by the opposition that Vice President Teofisto Guingona was pressured into relinquishing his post at the DFA to make way for the recruitment of Ople into the administration.

"Assuming that there are offers for certain senators to join the Cabinet, these offers are made, presumably and, I am confident, on the basis of the qualifications of these senators," Drilon said at a press conference.

And if, indeed, the foreign affairs portfolio had been offered to Ople, he "is most qualified to become DFA secretary," Drilon said, adding:

"Can anybody dispute that?"

Drilon noted that Ople had chaired the Senate foreign relations committee "since way back" and had also chaired the Commission on Appointments' foreign relations sub-committee "which would pass (judgment) on the qualifications of ambassadors."

He described Ople as "a man of stature," and said reports that Ople would fall for Malacañang's ploy to lure him into the administration "would be totally unfair."

And while he did not have personal knowledge of any move to give the diplomatic portfolio to Ople, Drilon said he would not be surprised if President Macapagal-Arroyo would do so.

But Ople's potential defection was quickly doused by opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara.

In a statement, Angara said Ople had "sent word from the United States that he will not trade off his affiliation with the new majority in the Senate with the Malacañang offer to take over as DFA secretary."

HO-HUM ERIK ARAZA

President Macapagal-Arroyo, Senate President Franklin Drilon and presidential adviser Dodie Limcaoco appear to be in different stages of stupor during the Mass celebrating Pope's Day at the Manila Cathedral Friday.

GMA bares plan to cut power rates

From page A1

services they have enjoyed and used," vowed Ms Macapagal.

She also ordered the National Power Corp. (Napocor) to cut down its power rates by P0.60 per kilowatt-hour within six days, as ordered by the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC).

Napocor has 30 days to comply with the order.

Next month, Napocor will further bring down its purchased power adjustment (PPA) cost to P0.40/kwh.

With this latest reduction, the President said the Philippines would slide from 2nd to 6th place among Asian countries in terms of highest power rates. The Philippines is currently second to Japan.

10 points

The President's 10-point program will:

- Eliminate onerous charges and loopholes in the cost structure.
- Give large power consumers a special price structure wherein more power used will amount to less unit cost.
- Optimize the utilization mix of Napocor plants and review its power development program to distribute generation capacity and minimize vulnerability to blackouts.
- Accelerate the operation of the wholesale electricity spot market.
- Give consumers "open access" to power supply so they can choose where to buy power.
- Help power distributors become more efficient.
- Strengthen rural electric cooperatives and take over inefficient ones like those in Aklan and Basilan.
- Renegotiate onerous IPP contracts to reduce stranded costs.
- Employ financial engineering methods to reduce stranded costs passed on to consumers but without passing it on to the national budget.
- Enhance the regulatory powers of the ERC.

Open access

According to the President, the Manila Electric Corp. (Meralco) is "willing to provide open access even if that might mean a loss of market for them" as long as the government removes its "cross subsidies" to less efficient power sectors like the Visayas.

Earlier, she pledged to devote most of her time in the coming months to the problem of high power rates.

Ms Macapagal's approval rating dropped by 6 percentage points since the last quarter to 42.6 percentage points because of "public dismay over increased electricity rates," the Social Weather Stations said.

Smoke . . .

From page A1

a cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church next week when smoking will be effectively banned indoors in the Vatican.

A law approved by Pope John Paul II and made public on Thursday will ban smoking in nearly all closed spaces inside the 108-acre city-state as of July 1.

The law entrusts the Vatican's tiny police force with enforcement. Violators, including cardinals and archbishops whom the policemen usually greet with a military salute, can be slapped with a fine of 30 euros ($30).

Under the law, "No Smoking" signs must be placed around the Vatican. Since the official language of the Church is Latin, it was not clear if some signs eventually would be in Latin.

If so, they would read "Vetatur Fumare" (No Smoking) or "Prohibetur Uti Fumo" (the use of smoke is prohibited), speculates Father Reginald Foster, a Latin scholar who translated the Vatican's cash point machines from Italian into the language of ancient Rome.

The Pope, who signed the no smoking law on June 4, is the Vatican's supreme monarch. So in theory, he could violate it at will.

But he doesn't smoke. ***Reuters***

WHO says fries, potato chips can cause cancer

From page A1

clear that this is a major concern," said Jorgen Schlundt, coordinator of World Health Organization's food safety division.

The closed meeting grouped 23 scientists from universities and national food authorities, including the US Food and Drug Administration. It was sponsored by the WHO and Food and Agriculture Organization.

Detailed recommendations were being circulated to governments and other interested parties on Friday.

The scientists participating in the conference stopped short of singling out specific foods which should be avoided.

"We cannot give consumers very specific advice such as, 'please avoid eating chips of this and that brand.' This will not be done," said Dieter Arnold of Germany's Federal Institute of Health Protection for Consumers.

Instead, Arnold said, experts agreed people should eat a balanced and varied diet including fruits and vegetables and should eat only moderate amounts of fried and fatty food.

A study by Sweden's National Food Administration earlier this year found high levels of acrylamide in French fries, some brands of potato chips, cookies, breakfast cereal and crispbread and some breads cooked at high temperatures.

Subsequent studies in Norway, Britain and Switzerland backed up these findings.

A survey by the US-based Center for Science in the Public Interest this week found the amount of acrylamide in a large order of fast-food French fries was at least 300 times more than what the US Environmental Protection Agency allows in a glass of water. WHO's recommended daily intake limit for the substance is one microgram in drinking water.

Acrylamide, which is used in low doses to purify drinking water, can in high doses cause damage to the nervous system, impotence, paralysis and cancer.

Scientists believe that high temperature in the cooking of the food is favorable to the presence of acrylamide, while the duration of the high temperature is also decisive. They plan to draw up recommendations outlining the areas needed for further research such as determining how acrylamide is formed during cooking, said Arnold.

The Snack Food Association—which represents manufacturers of some of the foods heavily implicated—said it was pleased that WHO stopped short of recommending that consumers change their diet and that the risks were overstated.

"We have been cooking food at high temperatures for more than 360,000 years," the association said. "The best advice for consumers is to continue to eat a moderate amount of a wide variety of foods, including potato chips."

Breakfast cereals coated in sugar and then processed seemed to contain higher levels of acrylamide, Arnold said. French fries cooked until they were brown rather than just lightly done also contained bigger levels.

Schlundt said a single meal of French fries wouldn't make much difference, while a lifetime of them probably would.

"The longer you eat it, the more tha is in the food, the greater the risk," h said.

Acrylamide, sometimes used in water-treatment facilities, is a known carcinogen in rats. There is no conclusiv proof that it causes cancer in humans. I is also a known neurotoxin, which ca cause nerve damage resulting in weakness in the hands and feet.

WHO and FAO officials stressed tha more research was needed to gain complete picture. So far 200 analyse have been completed worldwide i North America and Europe. The UN bodies now want to set up a network t channel data from governments, universities and industry into one centra database and to include research fron Africa, Asia and South America.

"Whenever analysis has been repeated in different laboratories on th same sample using the same method o different methods, they came to th same results. We unanimously concluded the Swedish results are vali and have to be taken seriously," Arnol said. AP

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SPORTS

Editor **Al S. Mendoza** ⊕ Assistant Editor **Edwin M. Villanueva**

Water polo 3-on-3 today, tomorrow

THE SECOND Pasa 3-on-3 water polo tournament this year will be held today and tomorrow at the Rizal Memorial pool. Six men's teams have already submitted their entries, according to water polo committee chair Carlos Santos Viola. Fifty players will vie for slots on the national team that will compete in the 4th Asia Pacific invitational tournament set Aug. 2-4 in Hong Kong.

WORLD CUP 3RD PLACE

Fans dub Korea-Turkey game 'little final'

Hero-worship for Hiddink

SEOUL—The hero-worship of Guus Hiddink in South Korea has reached new heights with the departure of the first "Thank You Hiddink" tour to the coach's birth place in the Netherlands.

The Dutchman has become the most popular foreigner in South Korea's history by guiding the national team to the semifinals of the World Cup. But Hiddink T-shirts and masks have not been enough.

Twenty-eight South Koreans left Wednesday for the Dutch town of Varsseveld where Hiddink was born and Doetinchem where he played football.

Hundreds more have signed up for the tour run by the Freedom Travel agency in July and August and other companies are now offer similar holidays to cash in on the Hiddink boom after South Korea reached the semi-finals of the World Cup.

"The Netherlands used to be an unpopular tourist destination," said Minn Kyong-Sook, marketing director for Freedom Travel, which first offered the tour in May.

"But when South Korea went to the second round of the World Cup we began receiving four or five phone calls a day asking about the new Hiddink tour package. Now there are 40-50 calls a day," she told AFP.

The rival Nextour firm said it was getting more than 30 calls a day from people wanting to go to Varsseveld, where the flow of tourists are taken to see the house where Hiddink was born and other landmarks.

During South Korea's matches, Varsseveld became a mini-Korea town with Korean national flags hung in the streets and banners in Korean wishing the team good luck.

While Hiddink ponders whether to stay with South Korea after their final World Cup match — the third place playoff against Turkey on Saturday — the personality cult surrounding him shows little sign of abating.

Newspapers fill several pages a day on the comments of Hiddink who is to be made South Korea's first honorary citizen for transforming the team. Major companies are holding seminars on the Hiddink style of management. ***AFP***

Redemption, record beckon Brazil

YOKOHAMA, Japan—Redemption and a record fifth title beckon Brazil as it prepares to take on Germany in the World Cup final here Sunday, the first meeting of the two football superpowers in the tournament's 72-year history.

Four years after suffering one of the most traumatic defeats in its history, Brazil is now tantalizingly close to laying the shattering loss against France in the 1998 final to rest once and for all.

Fittingly it is the goals of star center-forward Ronaldo - six in six matches so far - that have carried the South Americans into their third final in succession and their seventh overall.

The Inter Milan player is back as Brazil's cutting edge after battling through years of heartache that began with his ill-fated appearance in the final four years ago, when he played just hours after suffering a mysterious fit in his Paris hotel room.

"I don't want to remember 1998," Ronaldo said after scoring the winning goal in the 1-0 semifinal victory over Turkey on Wednesday.

"I'm totally not thinking about it. This time we want to make a different final with a different end. We are going to play our football, go to the final and hopefully win."

But though Ronaldo insists he wants to forget all about being lost in France, it is clear that the wounds from Paris are still raw among survivors of the mauling. Rivaldo and Roberto Carlos are both determined that there would be no repeat.

"The 1998 mistake should not happen again," said Rivaldo, who is only one goal behind Ronaldo in the race for the golden boot. "We have got to the final with much more confidence than in 1998. ***AP***

SOUTH Korean national team goalkeeper Lee Woon-jae catches the ball as teammate Kim Byung-ji looks on during a training session in Kyungju City for the third-place playoff of the 2002 World Cup. South Korea will play Turkey today at the Daegu World Cup Stadium in South Korea.

AP

GYEONGJU, South Korea—They turn up everywhere - student fans who wave national flags, hold handwritten "I love you!" messages and play a hide-and-seek game with police who try to flush them from hotel corridors and elevators.

It's the same outside the hotel where South Korea's World Cup team is staying. Fans shout the names of their favorite players until well past midnight, then start all over again on Friday at daybreak.

Three days after South Korea lost 1-0 to Germany in the semifinals, South Koreans' love for their team has hardly cooled. It will be the same when Guus Hiddink's side plays Saturday for third place against Turkey in Daegu, a central Korean city.

Hiddink knows about third-place games.

He led the Netherlands to the semifinals four years ago in France, where his team lost to Brazil on penalties. Croatia then defeated the Dutch for third place with striker Davor Suker scoring his sixth goal to seal the golden boot.

"It was not a nice experience. The game was under-motivated on both sides," Hiddink said. "It was just a game to play and go home afterward. ... I don't think that in these circumstances here, it will be the same game.

Good performance

"We are obliged. The players feel that they should bring to the public, to the fans in and outside the stadium, a good performance one more time," he said. "I don't think it will be a boring third-place final."

For millions of South Korean fans, Saturday's match will be a "little final." On match day, police expect huge crowds of red-clad fans to fill streets and plazas in Seoul again as if their "Red Devils" were playing in the real final. Koreas are hoping for what they call "the beauty of a meaningful end."

By becoming the first Asian side to reach the World Cup semifinals and outshining co-host Japan, which was eliminated in the second round, South Korea has achieved much more than it expected.

The winning run has been a huge morale boost for South Koreans, who have long had an inferiority complex from being squeezed between China and Japan, which throughout history have invaded and subjugated Korea. ***AP***

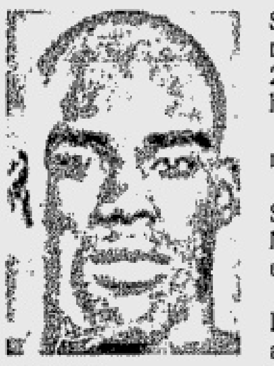
Hotels, cities, 'restos' to show WC matches

FOOTBALL fans can watch tomorrow's World Cup final live at commercial establishments that have been authorized by Dream Broadcasting System to telecast the event.

These are Hotel Intercontineal Manila, Century Park Hotel, The Peninsula Manila, Makati Shangri-La Hotel, Dusit Hotel Nikko, National Sports Grill, San Mig Alabang, San Mig El Pueblo, The Craic, Danish Connection Makati and Alabang, Butcher Shop and Grill, Rococo Bar, Che, Parque Espana, Jools, Café Mogambo, Bar Bandido, Foxys, Dreambar@6750, Streetlife, BG's and Dencio's Alabang.

Sites where the public can watch the Korea-Turkey battle for third place today and the Brazil-Germany match tomorrow are at Rockwell Center, Makati City; Lipa City, Olongapo City and Burnham Park, Baguio City.

RP joining adidas Asian Streetball Finals



JAMISON

SHANGHAI, China—adidas announced yesterday that the adidas Asian Streetball Finals 2002 will be held from Aug. 31 to Sept. 1 here.

The Philippines is assured of a slot in the 8-nation meet for men and women cage teams.

NBA players Antawn Jamison of the Golden State Warriors and Mike Miller of the Orlando Magic have confirmed their appearance in the event.

"adidas Streetball Challenge is one of the long-term grassroots initiatives taken by adidas to develop the sport of basketball in the region," said Wolfgang Bentheimer, vice president, marketing of adidas Asia Pacific. "We have successfully established a link with the young Asian consumers through the leading technology and cutting-edge design found in our basketball products."

Twelve men's and women's teams, representing eight countries and regions including China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Thailand, will compete for the Asian championship in the two-day tournament.

These teams, comprised of players under 19 years old, are winners of the adidas Streetball Challenge in their respective countries.

This year's tournament will be the fourth adidas Asian Streetball Finals.

It will feature the three-time Asian men's champion Hong Kong attempting to claim their fourth title. Host China will defend the Asian women's title.

Apart from the tournament, adidas Asian Streetball Finals 2002 will also feature a slam-dunk competition, a three-point shootout, and other interactive events and games.

The adidas Streetball Challenge will have its Manila leg on June 29-30. For more information, call Team Ventures either 5225953 or 4009745.

Kenneth returns, rules motocross mini-class

CALTEX-Revtex-KTM's Wonder Boy Kenneth San Andres stormed back from an arm injury and ruled the Mini-Class Division of the Super Ferry National Motocross Super Series 2002 at the muddy Sta. Monica Racetracks in Puerto Princesa recently.

The six-time champion, who lost in the last two legs due to an injury that had his right arm in cast, came back with a bang as he ruled both the morning and afternoon heats of the Mini Class category with 40 points.

San Andres, who has a total of 105 points, still trails the brother tandem of Juvinile and Joshua Abellar, who have compiled 127 and 124 points, respectively. But with San Andres' masterful ride, it won't be long before he grabs the lead again.

"The kid is simply awesome," said Caltex-Revtex-KTM team manager Ner Marquez Dormiendo. "We have a high level of confidence in Kenneth and we know that in due time, he will be back on top again. God-willing and injury-free, of course."

Meanwhile, Caltex daredevil Bebet dela Cruz finally made his move and finished both the Pro Open and 125 categories second behind Ernie Leongson and ahead of Jovie Saulog.

Task Force dumps baseball team

THE ASIAN Games Task Force rejected the bid of the men's baseball team to be included in the Asiad-bound roster despite the endorsement of the Baseball Association of Asia, according to chief of mission Tom Carrasco yesterday.

Carrasco said the BAA's letter of support to the RP sluggers is not sufficient for them to gain slots in the Busan Asiad since they still failed to prove that they stand a chance against the best in Asia.

"We politely wrote back to the BAA and told them that we have a criteria to follow," said Carrasco, who added that for the men's baseball squad to make it, they should show proof they are No. 1 at least in Southeast Asia in 2000.

"Anyway, we are just recommendatory and it's still up to the POC (Philippine Olympic Committee) to decide who's got what it takes to compete in the Asian Games," added Carrasco.

Carrasco added that three more athletes have made it to the national Asian Games pool after divers Rexel Ryan Fabrega and Jaime Asok and judoka Sydney Schwarzskopf IV made it to the list. With their inclusion, the RP delegation now stands at 151. ***Marc Anthony Reyes***

Coseteng eyes another sweep

THE CALTEX Havoline-Autoplus Racing team eyes another big harvest as crowd favorite and two-time Driver of the Year Jody Coseteng seeks his fourth straight sweep this weekend, June 29-30, in Rounds 7 and 8 of the 2002 SVI Grand Prix at the Subic International Raceway.

Coseteng, also backed up by Red Horse, has already garnered 60 points after winning all the past six races and winning back-to-back anew this weekend will further strengthen his bid for a fourth straight crown in SVI Super Saloon Series.

"There's no room to relax. Despite the big lead, nothing is sure yet. But Autoplus is ready with the adjustments to suit race conditions and hopefully, I could pull another big win," said Coseteng.

"We're still confident Coseteng could pull another sweep," said Paul Familara, Caltex Philippines product category manager for lubricants sales and marketing.

Ostertag donates kidney

DALLAS—With smiles, laughter and high hopes, Utah Jazz center Greg Ostertag donated a kidney Thursday to his younger sister, whose kidneys failed in March.

Doctors at Baylor University Medical Center said the transplant was a success and that both Ostertag and his sister, Amy Hall, were recovering well.

Hall, 26, has had type 1 diabetes since she was 7. Her kidney problems began in 1999. ***AP***

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat

TENNIS: Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships, Day #5 Highlights at 8 a.m. Day 5, Third Round at 10 a.m. (r), Day 6, Third Round at 7 p.m. on Star Sports

GOLF: PGA Fedex St. Jude Classic, Second Round at 3 p.m. on Star Sports

BASKETBALL: NBA Inside Stuff at 9 a.m. on Star Sports

The Basketball Show at 12 noon on RPN 9

2005 SEAG can unite Filipinos, says Dayrit

By Marc Anthony Reyes

NOTING how South Korea's scintillating World Cup performance proved that sports can unite a nation, Philippine Olympic Committee president Celso L. Dayrit sees the same thing happening to the Philippines when the country hosts the 2005 Southeast Asian Games for the third time in 25 years.

"There is an opportunity (for us) to recapture another glorious moment in sports since the POC, with the concurrence of President Macapagal Arroyo, made a bid and won the right to host the 2005 SEA Games," Dayrit said yesterday. "Now the government should do everything within its power to turn this opportunity into a reality."

Said Dayrit: "As proven by the Koreans, sports can unite our nation. Working together, we can make it happen. So let's leap high to 2005!"

The 2005 SEAG, according to Dayrit, is not just a sports event.

"It is a national festival, a celebration of the Filipinos as a healthy and happy people, a demonstration of our potentials to be champions—in sports and in other fields of endeavor."

DAYRIT

Like the Koreans, Dayrit said "we, too, can rally the entire citizenry to support our national team. "All those involved in sports—athletes and officials alike—can work in harmony to achieve a common goal. But the government and the private sector must also share in this national campaign."

Dayrit recalls that when the Philippines hosted the SEAG in 1991, our athletes won 91 gold medals.

"That 'Miracle of '91' gave joy and pride to our people, national pride was at its peak, the entire nation was united in praising our athletes," said Dayrit.

With their performance, the Koreans, Dayrit said, have become not only national heroes but, generally, as the pride of Asia.

Banal foresees Ateneo-La Salle

By Dennis U. Eroa

COACH Joel Banal, who steered Ateneo-Hapee-Negros Navigation to the PBL Chairman's Cup title, yesterday said the Blue Eagles are ready and raring to do battle in the coming 65th UAAP season which starts on July 13 at the Araneta Coliseum.

Banal faced the media during the regular Scoop sa Kamayan at Padre Faura session where he was named "Master Strategist" by the PBL Press Corps.

"The PBL experience will help us a lot," said Banal.

He admitted that toppling "five-peat" seeking La Salle is a tall order because the Green Archers have set the UAAP's standard of excellence.

"I think La Salle remains the team to beat and it's always fun to play the Archers," said Banal. "La Salle has a deep bench. If it's going to be another La Salle-Ateneo championship, then our PBL experience is going to be a big plus for us."

Ren Ren Ritualo will no longer play for coach Franz Pumaren's charges, but the Taft-based cagers are deadly as ever with Mike Cortez, Willy Wilson, Carlo Sharma, Joseph Yeo, Mark Cardona and Adonis Sta. Maria.

Banal, however, cautioned that other teams are capable of stopping the blockbuster Blue Eagles-Green Archers showdown.

Aside from Banal, the PBL Press Corps also honored Enrico Villanueva as finals and regular conference MVP. Also cited during the short but meaningful ceremonies were Ana Freezers coach Rudy Mendoza, Ateneo's Larry Fonacier, Rich Alvarez, Celino Cruz, ICTSI-La Salle's Willy Wilson, Mike Cortez, Blu's Aris Dimaunahan, Arnold Calo and Marlon Legaspi, John O's Ranidel de Ocampo and Kutitap's Allan Salangsang and Cyrus Baguio.

RP-Selecta team manager Elmer Yanga of RFM was guest of honor. Carlos Sario of John O and Sam Ancheta of Blu and Ateneo's Junjun Capistrano also attended the event.

Buhain to receive Asiad trackfest flag

By Marc Anthony Reyes

BUHAIN

THE PHILIPPINE preparation for the staging of the Asian track and field championships went full throttle yesterday when Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain agreed to personally receive the Asian Athletics flag in August from his Sri Lankan counterpart.

Sri Lankan minister on youth and sports Johnston Fernando has invited Buhain in the handover of the flag officially making the country as host of the event for the third time after 1973 and 1993.

Buhain also commended Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association president Go Teng Kok for bringing the event here after 10 years even as he set working committees to be composed of representatives of the PSC and the Patafa.

The committee, which will tackle aspects like budget, accommodation and security of the games set for Sept. 18-21, will hold its initial meeting on July 3, according to Go.

"Everybody is excited over our hosting the event because the country will again be in the spotlight considering the magnitute of the 4As," said Go of the Asiad trackfest which is expected to attract 1,200 athletes and officials from around 35 countries.

Venue will be the Rizal Memorial track oval, which played host to the 1993 edition where the country won a bronze medal through Elma Muros in women's long jump.

This time, though, Go promised a better showing by the national team which is starting to create a ripple in the Asian scene after winning one gold, one silver and three bronzes in the recent Asian Grand Prix also held here in May.

"We realized that the country's name is at stake not only in terms of organization but also in performance," said Go, who will send no less than 18 athletes to Sri Lanka for the 2002 championships.

He added that the national team's performance there will be the gauge of the country's track and field chances in the Busan Asian Games from Sept. 29 to Oct. 14.

Grand Prix 'volley' back at Big Dome July 19-21

THE WORLD Grand Prix Women's Volleyball Championship, featuring four of the world's finest teams, will again be held in the country on July 19-21 at the Cubao Big Dome.

Last staged in the country two years ago, the event, organized by the Arianworks Management Corporation in cooperation with the Philippine Amateur Volleyball Association, will pit powerhouse teams from Russia, Brazil, Germany and Japan.

Russia and Brazil won the Sydney 2000 Olympics silver and bronze medals, respectively, while Germany is the reigning European champion. They are all competing in the Grand Prix as part of their preparation for the Women's World Championships in August.

Japan takes on Brazil and Russia battles Germany on the first day of the Manila leg on July 19. It's Russia against Japan, and Germany against Brazil on July 20. On July 21, Germany takes on Japan, and Brazil faces Russia.

Teams earn two Grand Prix points for a win and one point for loss.

The start of the preliminary rounds, to be hosted simultaneously by Tokyo, Japan and Chengdu, China, will be on July 12 to 14. The finals, to be participated in by China plus the three teams with the most Grand Prix points after the preliminary rounds, will be held from Aug. 1-4 in Hong-Kong.

The four other teams taking part in the five other legs are China, Cuba, Thailand and the United States, last year's overall champion.

A total of $1.04 million is up for grabs in the four-week-long, two legs per weekend event which will also have other preliminary rounds in Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand; Macau; and Miau Li, Taiwan.

The event is supported by the New Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation in cooperation with San Mig Light, AGFA, Red Bull Energy Drink, Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office and the Philippine Sports Commission.

Other sponsors are Purefoods TJ Hotdogs, Dari Créme Light, St. Monique Valaise of Filmal Realty, Nextel Communications, Citibank, Viva Mineral Water, Kleenex Tissues, Kotex, Alaska Milk, Godiva, Linkman and the Philippine Tourism Authority.

For the third straight year, Viva-Vintage Sports Inc. will be the host broadcaster of the Grand Prix and will air the games on Viva television on July 19-21. Media partners also include 92.3 Joey's Rhythm, dzAR Angel Radyo 1026 and the Philippine Star.

Tickets are now being sold at all SM-Ticketnet outlets and at the Araneta Box Office. Interested parties may call 911-5555 or ArianWorks Management Corporation at 721-3914 and 721-3918. *Marc Anthony Reyes*

WIMBLEDON LOOKER
Russian Anna Kournikova continues to draw crowds as she teams up with American Chanda Rubin in beating Eva Bes and Marta Marrero of Spain, 6-1, 6-1, yesterday in Wimbledon. Other results: Elena Lihkovstsea d. Kim Clijsters, 7-6 (5), 6-2; Justine Henin d. Denise Chladkova, 6-2, 7-5; Tim Henman d. Scott Draper, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; and, Jeff Morrison d. Juan Carlos Ferrero, 6-3, 7-5, 7-6 (5).
AFP

SPORTSWATCH

NCA hosts star-studded derby

A STAR-STUDDED, one-day four-cock derby will be hosted by National Cockers Association council member Louie Cua on July 3 at the Araneta Coliseum featuring the very best fighting cocks of the country's leading cocker-breeders. The entries will be led by Big Dome owner Nene Araneta, Danding Cojuangco, the unsinkable James Chiongbian, Peping Cojuangco and longtime partner Esting Teopaco, three-time Rizal Gov. Ito Ynares, twice Cocker of the Year Jun "Idol" Santiago, Pampanga's champion cockers Jun and Rudy Jingco, Meycauayan Mayor Eddie Alarilla, former PBA Commissioner Rudy Salud and Lito Orillaza, Vice Mayor Ernesto Mercado, Eddie and Bomboy Araneta, 2002 Cocker of the Year Rep. Claude Bautista and Boyboy Roa, Boy Lechon and Louie Cua.

RP table tennis tandem cops bronze

THE PHILIPPINE'S girls doubles team grabbed the bronze medal in the just concluded south East Asian Junior Table Tennis Championships 2002 held at the Toa Payoh sports hall, Singapore. The Philippine delegation to the 9-nation event was headed by Victor U. Valbuena, Tatap president. The tandem of Ayra Malabayabas and Beverly Villar of the Philippines subdued Phiathep Sengdavy and Southmmayong T. of Laos (3-0) in the semifinals match to salvage the bronze medal.

Golf Power's new time slot

GOLF Power is back. Now on its seventh year, the show can now be watched every Saturday at 2 p.m. on RPN 9. Golf Power today features the participation of the Philippine Junior Golf Federation in the recently concluded 2nd Thailand Junior Golf Championships in Petchburi, Thailand. Also featured on the show are golf tips and the regular dose of trivia, definition of golf terms and rules. The weekly golf program is produced by Joe Cantada Sports and is sponsored by Absolute Pure Distilled Drinking Water.

Olympic Day Run tomorrow

IT'S all system go for the Olympic Day Run tomorrow which starts at 6 a.m. and finishes at the CCP complex in Pasay City. The field for the 10-k, 3-k wheelaton and 3-k fun run have been limited to 2,000 by the organizing committee led by Tom Carrasco, president of the Triathlon Association of the Philippines. The race numbers will be distributed starting at 3:30 p.m. today until 5:45 a.m. Sunday at the CCP complex while T-shirts, which every participants will be required to wear during the run, will be given from 3:30 to 5:45 a.m. on race day. Davao City will also stage its own Olympic Run tomorrow under the supervision of Vic Sai.

MANNA FROM MIKE
The First Gentleman, Juan Miguel "Mike" Arroyo (second from left), turns over P11 million to Gen. Edgardo Aglipay (third from left) as part of the proceeds from the First Gentleman's Golf Cup held on Monday at Wack Wack. The amount will be used by NCR police to finance projects for out-of-school youths. Other beneficiaries are the police forces from Regions 3, 4, 5, and 6 represented by their respective heads and the DSWD-Comfort Women, Senior Citizens, Golden Acres, Haven and Sanctuary.

Coca-Cola clashes with San Miguel 5

GAMES TODAY
(Cuneta Astrodome)
3:45 p.m.—FedEx vs Shell
5:45 p.m.—Coca-Cola vs San Miguel

By June Navarro

INSPIRED by Talk N Text's pacesetting 3-0 start, Coca-Cola tries to create a two-way tie at the top as it clashes with sister team San Miguel Beer today at the Cuneta Astrodome.

The Tigers, who registered easy victories at the expense of the FedEx Express and the Shell Turbo Chargers, are in for an acid test against the Beermen at the 5:45 tussle.

The Express and the Turbo Chargers, still winless in the mid-season tournament, mix it up in the nightcap.

"We will be able to gauge how competitive we are inside the shaded lane against a taller squad like San Miguel Beer," said Coca-Cola coach Chot Reyes.

But for the Beermen, the battle opens a door of opportunity for them to exact revenge after being beaten black and blue by the Tigers during their third-place showdown last conference.

Searching for the right import combination, the Beermen landed a new import to replace the ineffective Damon Flint.

Shea Seals, a 6-foot-5 slasher who played for the LA Lakers during the 98-99 NBA season, will team up with former Seattle Supersonic Art Long.

The 6-foot-9 Long, however, is recuperating from a pulled hamstring in a 74-62 defeat the Beermen absorbed at the hands of the Selecta-RP Team.

Blades beat Waves

GAMES TOMORROW *(LYCC, Lipa City)*
1 p.m.—Pangasinan vs Olongapo
3 p.m.—Pampanga vs Batangas

OLONGAPO CITY—The LBC Batangas Blades were again in sharp form as they thwarted the Osaka Pangasinan Waves, 91-80, yesterday in the MBA National Conference at the Olongapo Convention Center here.

Held to a 64-64 count in the third quarter, the Blades clustered eight points to finally break away en route to their third win against two defeats in the Northern Conference.

The Waves fell to 1-3 as they yielded to the Blades for the second straight time this conference. Their first encounter ended at 96-77.

Ralph Rivera, Alex Compton and Jeffrey Sanders spearheaded the Blades attack as they shone from afar and the charity stripe.

The 6-foot Rivera topscored with 22 points as he conspired with Sanders in towing the Blades past the Waves at 42-33. Sanders finished with 19 points, trailing Compton's 21. *Roy Luarca*

RFM's Concepcion bats for MBA-PBL merger

By Roy Luarca

PROSPECTS of a merger between the Metropolitan Basketball Association and the Philippine Basketball League have brightened with cage patron Jose 'Joey' Concepcion III agreeing to play a key role in the negotiations.

Concepcion, president and CEO of RFM Corp., and Elmer Yanga, SVP for corporate relations, met recently with Santi Araneta and Mon Tuason of the MBA and agreed to bridge the gap between the MBA and the PBL.

Not only that, Concepcion also committed RFM's participation once the unification pushes through.

"RFM will definitely join the unified amateur league in the event the merger will materialize," Concepcion said.

"We have already some preliminary discussions with the parties concerned regarding this merger but it is only now that a serious interest has been shown," added Concepcion. "This is a very welcome development toward the realization of our dream of having a unified amateur league."

NCAA season starts today

GAMES TODAY *(Araneta Coliseum)*
1 p.m.—Opening ceremonies
2 p.m.—Mapua vs PCU
4 p.m.—Letran vs San Beda
6 p.m.—CSB vs JRU
8 p.m.—UPHR vs SSC-R

By June Navarro

NO team has ever won a major collegiate basketball crown after ruling the Fr. Martin's Cup during the pre-season.

San Sebastian College will try to erase that when the Stags start defending their title at the opening of the 78th NCAA season today at the Araneta Coliseum.

Runaway champs in the Fr. Martin's Cup, the Stags will be fielding in a less potent brew but a more cohesive lineup compared to last year as they clash with the University of Perpetual Help-Rizal Altas in the main game at 8 p.m.

It will be the culmination of a heavy four-game bill beginning with the Mapua-PCU tussle at 2 p.m., after an elaborate opening ceremony conceptualized by host San Beda College.

Letran troops to the floor at 4 p.m. against the Red Lions, who ended up as the league's goat during the previous edition of the oldest collegiate league in the country.

Letran head coach Louie Alas has taken in a team of efficient assistants in Dayong Mendoza, Ceasar Polhen, Mel Alas and Bernard Ramos to help regain the Knights' lost glory after winning back-to-back titles in 1998 and 1999. Alas, who steered the Knights to the crown in 1998, will be pinning his hopes on veterans Ronjay Enrile, Harold Sta. Cruz, Gian Carlo Sillona and Arniel Syhongpan.

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BLAST FROM THE PAST

TODAY in 1993, Jethro Dionisio beat Jerry Barnhart to rule the World Shootoff Championships in Montrose, Colorado. Also today in 1993, the Philippine Navy earned four gold medals to retain its overall crown in the Second Quarter National Open wrestling championship at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex.

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No-work holiday in Pasig

PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has declared a special non-working holiday in Pasig on July 2, the city's 429th foundation anniversary. Pasig, one of the oldest towns in the Philippines, was established in 1572 by early Spanish settlers.

METRO

Editor Louie C. Camino

Mayors: We'll quit if we can't stop jueteng

By Christian V. Esguerra

METRO MANILA mayors yesterday offered to step down if they fail to wipe out illegal gambling in their areas once they are given full control over the local police.

Mayor Wenceslao Trinidad, spokesperson of the Metro Manila Mayors League, made this promise after Interior Secretary Jose Lina had asked Manila Mayor Lito Atienza and three other local officials to explain the persistence of illegal gambling in their areas.

Trinidad made the statement a day after Lina recommended the relief of seven top police officials, including Metro Manila police chief Edgar Aglipay and Central Luzon police chief Reynaldo Berroyo, for their alleged failure to stop *jueteng*.

Trinidad said the renewed crackdown on jueteng, an illegal numbers game, was "dangerous" and could be a preview of an upcoming purge.

"Mayors should not be blamed for the failure of police," the

MAYORS/ A24

HOME IN A BOX

Relatives of Maricor Gatapia greet her remains with grief at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. Gatapia, 32, died in a fall from the 25th floor of her workplace in Singapore where she was a domestic helper.

ROGER MARGALLO

Life has to go on —Pasinos

By Philip C. Tubeza

PASINOS

"*NAUBOS na ang luha ko noong isang araw* (My tears have run dry). (But) it is not the end of the world. Life has to go on."

This was what outgoing Western Police District director Chief Supt. Nicolas Pasinos Jr. said yesterday when he announced that he had already accepted his relief and was only waiting for his walking papers.

"We are men enough," he said. "I accept."

His regular news conference yesterday became an occasion for Pasinos to deliver his valedictory address.

"You may not be proud of your district director but be proud of your district," he told his station commanders.

"Where the Manila police goes, so go the (other police forces in the) country."

The police general was smiling and forthright when he sang his swan song. The only time a hint of bitterness became audible in his voice was when he clarified the circumstances of his relief.

"Under the (National Police Commission) Memo No. 2002-005—*na*-memorize *ko na* (I have memorized it already)—any three raids that turn positive in your jurisdiction will result in your relief," he said.

He said that even if his men made "a million arrests" and the interior department's Task Force Jericho made three "positive raids," the re-

LIFE HAS/ A24

Court orders Planas arrest

By Christian V. Esguerra

PLANAS

A PASAY court on Thursday ordered the arrest of Charito Planas, executive director of the Nayong Pilipino, for allegedly defying a temporary restraining order barring the closure of the theme park last June 25.

Judge Henrick Gingoyon issued the arrest warrant in connection with the contempt charges filed against Planas by park concessionaires a day after the closure.

Planas posted a P6,000 bail on the same day that she received the warrant of arrest.

"I'm not fazed by this," an angry Planas said yesterday. "They (concessionaires) can even send a truckload of soldiers to arrest me."

Lawyer Oliver Lozano, who represents the concessionaires, considered the arrest warrant an "initial victory" in the contempt and graft charges he had filed against Planas.

Last Monday, the concessionaires sued Planas for graft before the Ombudsman for entering into an "illegal" agreement to close Nayong Pilipino.

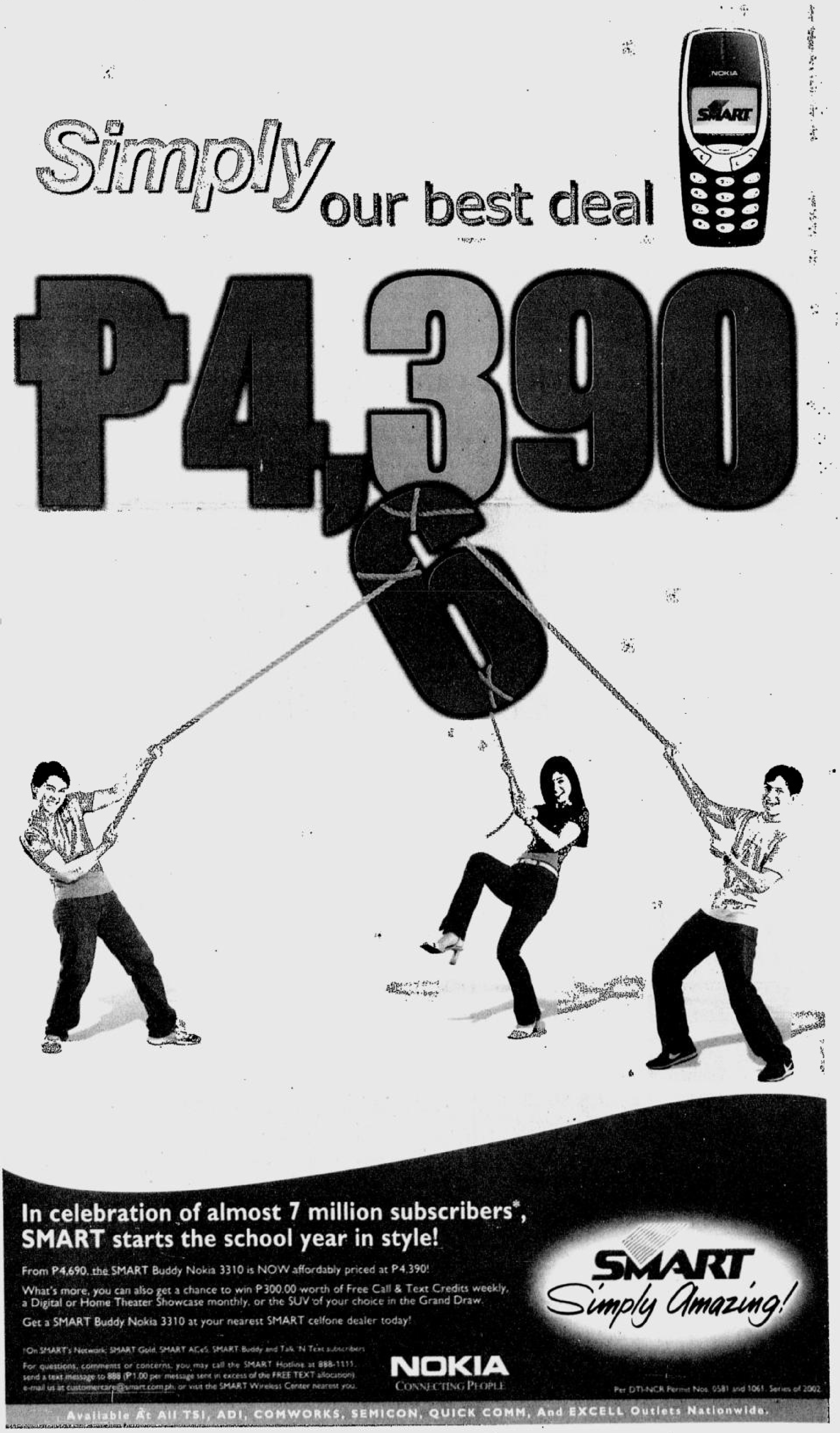
In his motion for contempt, Lozano argued that Planas had no business closing the theme park because it was prohibited by a TRO issued by Gingoyon last week. Since the order barred the eviction of concessionaires, it also blocked the closure, the lawyer said.

Park management proceeded with the closure last Tuesday to give way to the construction of a taxiway and an access road for the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3.

Lozano yesterday wrote a letter to Naia General Manager Edgardo Manda informing him of the legal impediments that Planas supposedly ignored in closing the park.

The lawyer said there was no "transfer of possession and beneficial use of the Nayong Pilipino lot to (the) Manila International Airport Authority."

He said the memorandum of agreement signed by Planas and the MIAA last month did not have the required approval of President Macapagal-Arroyo.



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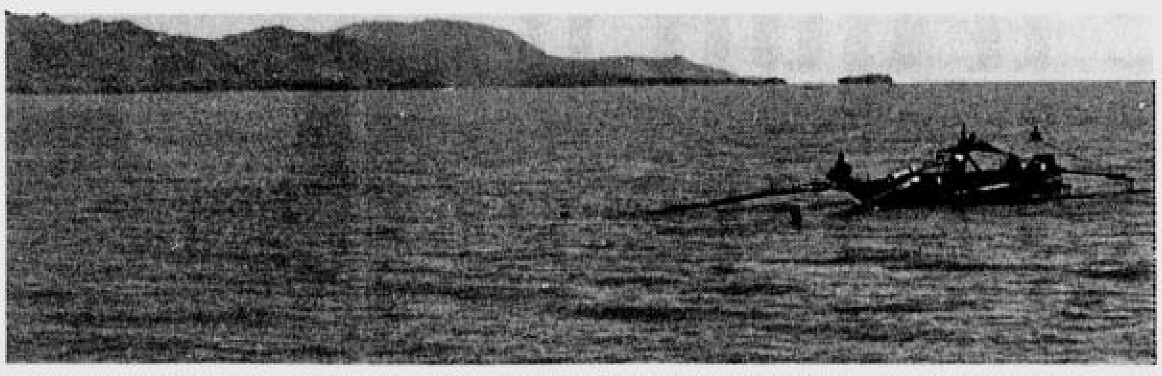
Laguna Bay a 'lake for life'

By Jerry Esplanada

(Conclusion)



LAGUNA Bay takes center stage at the 7th Living Lakes conference in Johannesburg and Pretoria, South Africa.
JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

WITH A rapidly growing population in the lakeshore towns, coupled with inadequate surface water production in the Angat, Bulacan area and declining groundwater resources, "the lake water is seen as a major source of potable water in the region," Cataquiz reported.

The Laguna Lake Development Authority had earlier signed a memorandum of agreement with two concessionaires of the Manila Waterworks and Sewerage Authority—Maynilad Water Services and Manila Water Co.—to abstract 400,000 cubic meters of lake water per day starting 2006.

For the past five years, the LLDA has been selling lake water to the private firm Ayala Land which in turn supplies to residents of the posh Ayala-Alabang subdivision.

Laguna de Ba'i is also used as source of industrial cooling water by the state-run National Power Corp. (for the Malaya and Sucat Thermal power plants and the Kalayaan hydropower plant) and the Philippine Petroleum Corp. refinery in Pililia town.

But the lake's most dominant use is still fisheries.

Between 1997 and 2000, Laguna de Ba'i yielded an estimated 37,000 to 47,000 metric ton of fish, both from fish pen operations and open fishing activities.

Fish catch, however, declined last year reportedly due to weather conditions.

Blueprint

Next August, our very own Laguna de Ba'i will take center stage again, this time at the 7th Living Lakes international conference in Johannesburg and Pretoria, South Africa.

The Philippines' largest lake, billed as a "best practice example" of Agenda 21, will be the subject of a panel discussion during the conference.

Agenda 21 is the blueprint for sustainable development that was agreed upon at the 1992 Earth Summit in Brazil.

Last year, Laguna de Ba'i was admitted to the Living Lakes network during its 6th international conference, held in Lake Baikal and Ulan Ude in Eastern Siberia.

In South Africa, the Philippine delegation "will have the opportunity to discuss with their counterparts from other Living Lakes partners ways for building up successful partnerships," said Dr. Gerhard Thielcke, president of the Germany-based Global Nature Fund that created Living Lakes.

Living Lakes is an international body that strives to preserve and rehabilitate endangered lakes and other inland bodies of water worldwide.

Laguna de Ba'i was named the 18th member of Living Lakes during a five-day conference in Eastern Siberia, attended by more than 160 environmentalists, scientists, and government and business representatives who had traveled to that remote corner of Russia.

The idea of joining the network started in November 1999 during Unilever's meeting on Sustainable Water and Integrated Catchment Management (Swim) in Liverpool, England. The lake's candidacy was formalized in November 2000 during the 5th Living Lakes conference in Lake Biwa, Japan.

Breakthrough

Chito Macapagal, general manager for corporate development of Unilever Philippines, which sponsored the lake's bid, called its admission to the network a "breakthrough for Laguna de Ba'i and a milestone for Philippine environmental history."

In international conferences, Laguna de Ba'i "can now be mentioned in the same breath as the other Living Lakes partners," Macapagal said.

Along with Amy Lecciones of the non-government Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands and Lennie Santos-Borja of LLDA's research and development division, Macapagal will report on the Laguna de Ba'i experience in the South Africa conference.

Last year, Unilever Philippines, SCPW and the LLDA formed a tripartite partnership called CLEAR, which stands for Conservation of Laguna de Ba'i's Environment and Resources, to pursue the lake's membership in the international network.

They also signed a memorandum of agreement to "ensure the continuity of efforts to conserve the lake's resources and empower and educate communities within the lake's watershed."

As private sector partner, Unilever shall "provide funding support for advocacy initiatives and initiate activities that will influence and mobilize the business sector toward corporate social responsibility."

As the collaborating agency, the LLDA shall "coordinate the tripartite partnership's activities and provide funding support for biodiversity studies on the lake and environmental education projects."

As the NGO partner, SCPW was tasked to "design and implement advocacy activities for lake conservation, coordinate with other environmental NGOs in the lake region and be the focal point for coordination with other Living Lakes partners."

Next week, a "Lake for Life" conference will be held at the National Arts Center in Mt. Makiling, Los Baños, Laguna. The activity is "aimed at encouraging the active support and cooperation of all stakeholders in conserving Laguna de Ba'i, said Howard Belton, chair and chief executive officer of Unilever Phils., and Cataquiz in a letter to the INQUIRER.

Macapagal said the partnership's "tough jobs are yet to come."

Jancom deal invalid

By Leila Salaverria

NO LESS than the signature of President Macapagal Arroyo must be on the Jancom contract for it to be upheld, according to Metro Manila Development Authority Chair Bayani Fernando.

"The approving authority is the president," Fernando said yesterday even as Jancom insisted that the contract is valid as far as they are concerned. "*Hindi* valid *kapag hindi pinirmahan ng presidente* (It won't be valid unless the president signs it)."

The Metro Manila Council, which is composed of city mayors, had agreed to recommend the scrapping of Jancom's contract to Malacañang, Fernando had said on Wednesday.

But Jancom had cited the Supreme Court ruling that the contract it forged with MMDA was valid. Under the contract, Jancom was supposed to process 3,000 tons of garbage produced by Metro Manila.

President Macapagal, however, refused to sign the contract, saying it was flawed.

Among the issues cited against the $350-M Jancom contract was its use of incinerators, which violates the provisions in the Clean Air Act.

Another contested point is Jancom's tipping fee every city is required to pay for every ton of garbage collected.

Jancom spokesperson Ricky Alegre had also said that they are willing to negotiate with the MMDA to downgrade their operations. Instead of using incinerators, Alegre said Jancom would use sanitary landfills. He added that Jancom is also willing to reduce its tipping fee to $19, down from $35.

Alegre said that Jancom officials had also requested to meet with Fernando.

Mayors: We'll quit if we can't stop jueteng

From page A23

Pasay mayor said. "We don't have control over them so why would Lina hold us responsible? We are answerable to the people, not to him."

If Lina wants mayors to be held accountable for anti-gambling operations, authority over local police should be returned to local executives, Trinidad said.

"If that happens, we will put our positions on the line," he said. "We will resign if we fail to rid our areas of illegal gambling."

Mayors are set to meet on Tuesday to come up with a plan of action. Among the issues expected to be raised is the controversial National Police Commission policy which took effect last May 6. The policy calls for the relief of regional directors once three or more separate raids have been conducted in their areas by police units from another region.

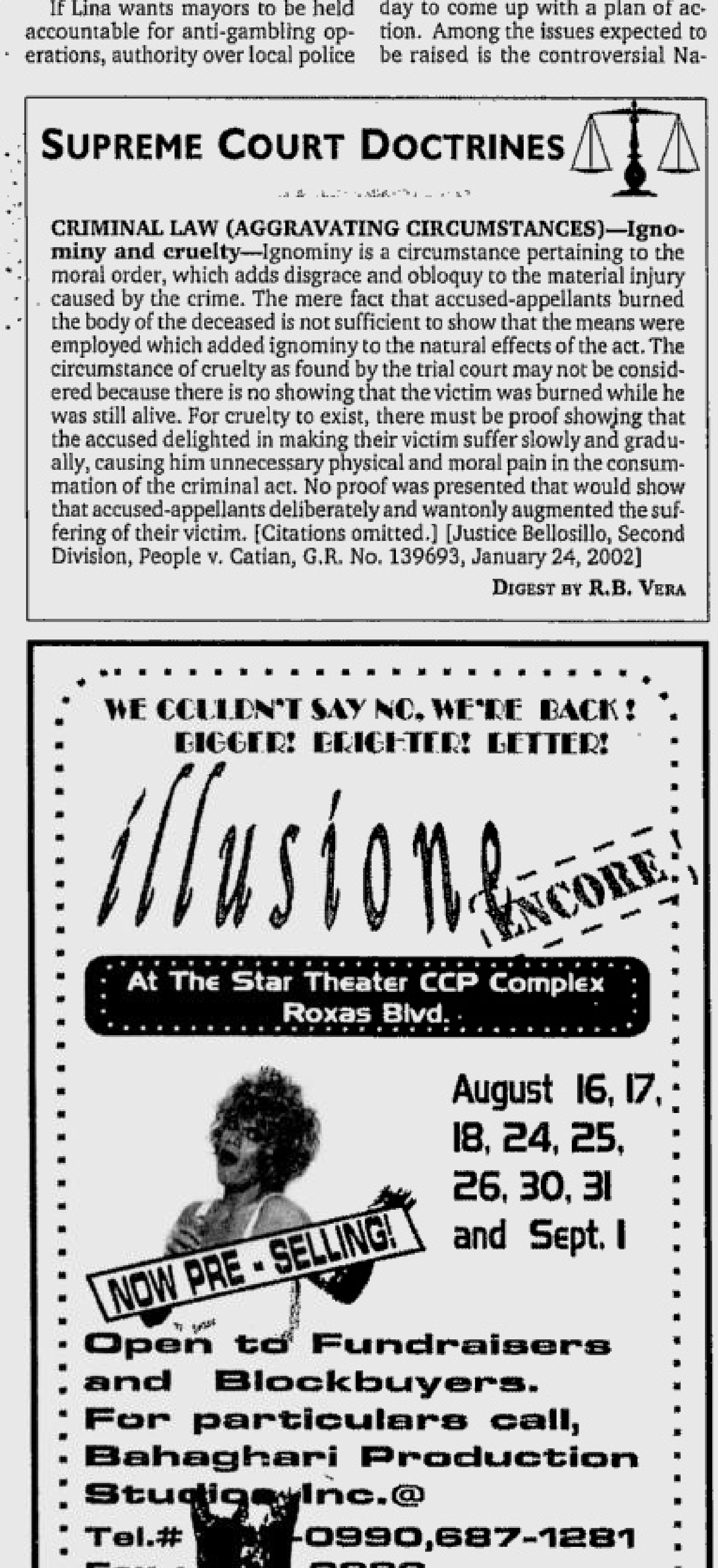
Trinidad said mayors were essentially included in the policy after Lina held them responsible for the police's failure in the drive against illegal gambling.

"The problem of jueteng cannot be solved simply by relieving police officials," he said. "The national government should closely coordinate and cooperate with local government units in coming up with realistic and effective solutions."

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

CRIMINAL LAW (AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES)—Ignominy and cruelty—Ignominy is a circumstance pertaining to the moral order, which adds disgrace and obloquy to the material injury caused by the crime. The mere fact that accused-appellants burned the body of the deceased is not sufficient to show that the means were employed which added ignominy to the natural effects of the act. The circumstance of cruelty as found by the trial court may not be considered because there is no showing that the victim was burned while he was still alive. For cruelty to exist, there must be proof showing that the accused delighted in making their victim suffer slowly and gradually, causing him unnecessary physical and moral pain in the consummation of the criminal act. No proof was presented that would show that accused-appellants deliberately and wantonly augmented the suffering of their victim. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Bellosillo, Second Division, People v. Catian, G.R. No. 139693, January 24, 2002]

DIGEST BY R.B. VERA



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Life has to go on ...

From page A23

sponsible police officer still would have to go.

In his case, the task force made three arrests on June 16 in Tondo. "(And) it was bookies, not jueteng," Pasinos stressed. "The memo says all forms of illegal gambling should go."

He told his men to "do your best" so that even when they are relieved, they would be "at peace" with themselves. "I'm thankful for your support but the problem is our best (was not good enough)," he said.

"*Gusto namin pumogi (pero) minsan may tama* (You want to look good, but sometimes there are hitches). If you don't want that, then don't aspire to be a commander."

Practical spirituality

INNER SPACE Manila is offering a specially designed 1-and-a-half hour interactive fora, which can lead to new insights.

The fora, called Practical Spirituality: Living Values for a Better World, would explore and experience the values that make for a better person and a better world.

The fora will be held through July to September, and launched at 5 p.m. on July 1 at Inner Space Manila, 3/F CDC Building, 1195 Maria Orosa, Ermita, Manila.

All courses start at 5:15 and end at 6:30 p.m. and are open to the public as a free service to the community.

For reservations, please call 521-2015 or send a fax to 524-3489.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Saturday, June 29, 2002
Peter & Paul, Apostles

1st Reading: *Acts 12:1-11*
2nd Reading: *2 Tim 4:6-8, 17-18*
Gospel: *Mt 16:13-19*

Jesus came to Caesarea Philippi. He asked his disciples, "What do people say of the Son of Man? Who do they say I am?" They said, "For some of them you are John the Baptist, for others Elijah or Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

Jesus asked them, "But you, who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "It is well for you, Simon Barjona, for it is not flesh or blood that has revealed this to you but my Father in heaven.

And now I say to you: You are Peter (or *Rock*) and on this rock I will build my Church; and never will the powers of death overcome it.

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and what you unbind on earth shall be unbound in heaven."

Commentary

It is interesting to note that the more than a million Filipino domestic helpers throughout the world bring about change not only in the economy of the Philippines but in the way of life of the families of their respective employers. They do not actively engage in preaching or converting their non-Christian employers, but they bring with them their Christian way of living.

They pray daily and go to Mass weekly. They also tell stories to the children under their care. And their employers see what they do and hear what they say, even as many of them wonder, "why is it that though we are wealthy, we are not happy, but there she is—a simple housemaid—and she is happy!"

They're everywhere doing menial jobs, yet they bring the Gospel to the world!

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'Salvagings' in Taytay: Lina's big problem

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Roy Cimatu has ordered an investigation of the checks' scam at the Armed Forces Finance Center in Camp Aguinaldo, which was exposed by this corner June 20.

"I thank you for exposing the irregularity. Please assure the public that there will be no whitewash," Cimatu told this writer over the phone.

Top-ranking officers at the Finance Center, the AFP chief said, will all be relieved and transferred to other units while they're being investigated.

* * *

My military mole said that almost all the top officers at the Finance Center are involved in cashing checks of dead pensioners or their widows, who are also dead. The signatures of the dead beneficiaries are forged.

The checks were supposed to be returned to the National Treasury. The crooks at the Finance Center, according to my mole, defraud the government of P20 million to P30 million every month cashing the checks of the dead.

The irregularity has been going on for years. The officers involved have been at the Finance Center for many years, violating a rule in the military that pegs to three years the length of time an officer can stay in a particular unit.

* * *

General Cimatu will also have to investigate officers at J-1 (AFP personnel department) for allowing the concerned Finance Center officers to stay in their assignments beyond the regulatory period.

The AFP chief will also have to investigate the members of the military's Office of Ethical Standards for Public Accountability (Oespa) for turning a blind eye on the goings-on at the Finance Center.

My spy said that some Oespa members are involved in the checks scam syndicate.

It's going to be a tough job for Cimatu because many top-ranking AFP officials, who are retired or still in the active service, are involved in the irregularity.

* * *

Interior and Local Government Secretary Jose Lina has an inefficient staff that does not keep him abreast of the news stories that concern his department.

These subordinates are supposed to submit to Lina news clippings about irregularities within the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), so he could immediately act on them. But they don't.

The inefficiency of Lina's staff surfaced when this corner exposed an armed vigilante group formed by Taytay, Rizal Mayor Jojo Zapanta. The group has been involved in "salvagings" or vigilante killings of some of the town's suspected hoods.

The exposé about Zapanta's private army appeared on June 8. But Lina was unaware of the exposé until after this writer asked him for comment last Thursday, June 20.

* * *

Stories or exposés that affect a big number of the citizenry need immediate action from concerned government officials.

Since the story concerned the illegal acts of a town mayor, Lina should have acted—pronto.

Lina's order to the Philippine National Police (PNP) to investigate the reported vigilante killings in that town came a little late. That order should have been issued on the first working day the exposé appeared in this corner. Since June 8 was a Saturday, the order should have been given on June 10.

* * *

Lina is not expected to read every news item or column or listen to all news broadcasts. It's impossible for him to do so.

But he is expected to be on top of news reports, especially those that concern the DILG. He can do that through his subordinates.

Lina's failure to act on news of far-reaching consequence might be construed as lack of interest for those reports. In which case, he has no business being in his job.

* * *

Tigilan mo na kasi yang pagiging broadcaster *mo sa radyo* (Stop being a broadcaster on radio) so you can attend to all the problems in your department!

Lina has a daily radio program at ABS-CBN's dzMM where he tackles issues about his department.

Instead of focusing attention on your radio program, which, I think is aimed at making the citizenry more aware of you rather than the DILG, why not focus on your job, Mr. Secretary?

Being a DILG Secretary is a full-time job.

* * *

Now, back to Mayor Zapanta and his armed vigilante group.

It's apparent that the vigilante group, composed of contractual town employees, is illegal. It's also obvious that what they're doing—killing suspected thieves and drug pushers—is illegal. Nobody should take the law into his hands.

I learned about the Taytay mayor's private army when the mother of an unemployed youth, Mark Anthony de Leon, complained to me that her son was shot dead by some members of the group.

Was De Leon caught while stealing or pushing illegal drugs when he was shot? No, he was riding around town on a motorcycle with his girlfriend. His girlfriend was also shot, but she's now safe.

* * *

I went to see Mayor Zapanta and asked him if he and his men had evidence against De Leon. The mayor couldn't show proof of the young man's illegal activities.

He arrogantly challenged this writer, as well as the victim's mother, to charge him and his men in court.

I asked the mayor why he didn't let the police go after the hoods in his town. He said he didn't trust the town police.

Mr. Lina, how will you deal with a problem like Mayor Zapanta?

The DILG, the most powerful department, has vital agencies under it. Among these agencies are the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Fire Protection, Bureau of Jail Management and Penology. Also under DILG are the local government units headed by the provincial governors and town and city mayors.

ERIK ARAZAS

QUICK CARD
The National Bureau of Investigation launches the NBI Clearance Renewal Smart Card, which eliminates the cashier. Applicants pay through a slot similar to a soda vending machine and get their clearance in an average of five minutes, the NBI says.

Tourism for elementary, high school

By Jerome Aning

TOURISM Secretary Richard Gordon yesterday batted for the inclusion of tourism subjects in elementary and high school classes throughout the country.

Gordon said the bill filed by Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr. providing the compulsory teaching of tourism in primary and secondary schools "would make citizens appreciate more the value of tourism in nation-building."

"I have yet to see the provisions of the bill, but the general idea is a laudable one," Gordon said.

He pointed out that tourism is one of the top revenue earners in the country and worldwide and that his proposal "would go a long way in our getting the most from the sector."

He said that if Magsaysay's bill becomes a law, the Department of Tourism would assist the Department of Education in designing tourism modules appropriate for the elementary and high school levels.

He said the state must inculcate in the youth a sense of pride in their race, language and country.

"The battle to attract tourists is a fierce one, and it would help if we could attract them young so that we would not lose the momentum when their turn to chart the course of the country comes," he said.

Under the proposed bill, the DepEd would be in charge of producing the necessary tourism information materials.

Magsaysay said that despite the effects of security concerns in the past few years, the tourism industry was innovatively and boldly promoted.

Among the DOT's recent promotion projects are Volunteer 12, WOW Philippines and the "More Than the Usual" TV campaign.

Target: Zero waste

By Joey C. Papa and Ana Ver-Papa, *Contributors*

THE ZERO waste loop can only be closed when believers and practitioners have prevailed upon the non-believers that a zero waste condition can be achieved.

Proponents of incinerators, as well as of landfills and dumpsites, are non-believers. That is why the First Global Day of Action Against Incineration was celebrated on June 17 in the hope of converting non-believers and inspiring and supporting believers.

To mark the day in the Philippines, a "citizens' appeal" was endorsed by more than 80 groups from some 34 countries for President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to phase out medical waste incinerators in the country and to replace these with safer, non-burn technologies in accordance with the law.

The Global Alliance against Incinerators/Global Anti-Incineration Alternatives (GAIA) secretariat in the Philippines has been circulating this appeal in view of the proposed extension of the phaseout period for medical waste incinerators from the year 2003 to 2009.

12 tons

The appeal says "one of the most alarming threats to human health and the environment is the burning of medical waste . . . which results in the release of highly toxic pollutants and hazardous residues, threatening both public health and the environment."

> *"About 12 tons of medical waste are generated daily in Metro Manila's 713 hospitals and clinics alone"*

"About 12 tons of medical waste are generated daily in Metro Manila's 713 hospitals and clinics alone," it says.

The appeal points out that instead of implementing the mandate of the law, hospitals "with the backing of the Department of Health continue to burn infectious waste together with general hospital waste in these incinerators, mindless of the pollution they create."

The appeal signatories are asking the President to direct the health secretary to implement the phaseout of medical waste incinerators as mandated by the Clean Air Act; the DOH and all health care facilities to establish without delay non-incineration medical waste treatment and disposal technologies; and the Senate to ratify the POPs (Persistent Organic Pollutants) Treaty and for Congress to enact enabling legislation.

For the DOH to phase out medical waste, one bottleneck that must be resolved is the current P80-million loan that the Philippine government has contracted to pay for a defective incinerator bought from Austria, according to Dr. Metodio Palaypay of the Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the Philippines Inc.

35 years

Palaypay suggests that members of Greenpeace International in the Philippines could initiate the filing of a suit against Austria for selling defective equipment as this violates the terms of the contract. This would be a way of releasing the DOH from the burden of paying for a useless and harmful contraption and enabling it to explore the use of other eco-friendly technologies.

The Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the Philippines Foundation Inc., the pioneer Philippine advocate of waste prevention, sorting and segregation at source (households and communities), re-use, recycling, and composting, was an active participants in the First Global Day Action against Incinerators.

For about 35 years now, the members of this movement have been showing the ecological way to preventing all types of incineration. These include open burning of all types of waste, and of course, the big and expensive industrial types, including hospital incinerators, as well as incineration generated within a person or directly from one person to another through smoking.

For those who insist on this last form of incineration, the Zero Waste Movement members teach the making of organic pesticide from cigarette butts. This, however, is not actively promoted.

The Zero Waste Recycling Movement has been trying to make us value all our God-given resources. The bottom line is that there should be no such thing as waste, much less garbage, and that any resource should never, never be burned as a means of disposal. Nothing should be disposed of; everything must be given back to Mother Earth or to the factory.

Four Es

The Zero Waste Recycling Movement has also developed the household and community-based system for implementing the zero waste practice by teaching the anatomy of waste to guide waste generators in separating the biodegradable from the non-biodegradable, and in managing these resources community-wide.

The four Es—education, engineering, enforcement, and entrepreneurship—ensure that waste is prevented in the first place and excess materials are re-used, recycled or composted, while the special wastes, the toxic and hazardous, are ecologically treated and also harnessed for further use.

In short, the zero waste concept and practice is a mindset, a lifestyle, a whole value system for individual, community, and national discipline.

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DAIRY GOOD.

New PNP headquarters for Cavite

CAVITE Gov. Ayong S. Maliksi recently led the recent groundbreaking rites for the proposed 4.9-hectare, P10-million new Cavite Philippine National Police headquarters in Barangay Osorio in Trece Martires City.

The present Cavite police headquarters, known as Camp Pantaleon Garcia, is in Imus.

However, the land where the new Cavite PNP building is set to rise is the subject of a controversy involving Dare Foundation, which has been occupying a portion of the land for 31 years now for free, according to the Cavite PNP director, Sr. Supt. Sammy Pagdilao.

A female foundation worker who refused to be identified said Dare is doing rehabilitation work for drug dependents there for a fee. It maintains three low-rise buildings with a total of 40 bunk beds. As of June 17, the foundation had 30 residents, she said.

Pagdilao said the land was donated on Dec. 16, 1958 to the then Philippine Constabulary by Trece Martires Development Corp., owned by the Montanos.

"There is one condition to the donation," said Pagdilao, "that it be made the site of the provincial police headquarters. Now, the donors are threatening to take the land back if that condition is not met. We have no recourse now but to build our headquarters there."

Sources said Dare officials are fighting the conversion of the land and are even questioning its ownership.

"We're not evicting them (Dare) even if they have been occupying the land for so many years," said Pagdilao. "I advise them to talk to the PNP leaders and work out a new arrangement. I will follow whatever my superiors will decide to do."

Maliksi has expressed full support for the transfer of the Cavite police headquarters to Trece Martires, where the provincial capitol is also located. He has committed to donate P5 million for its construction.

"Trece Martires is strategically located in the heart of Cavite, which will enable the police to respond fast to emergency calls for assistance," Maliksi said during the groundbreaking for the proposed Cavite PNP main building. ***Joven S. Joya,*** *Contributor*

GOV. Maliksi leads the groundbreaking in Barangay Osorio. With him are (from left) Cavite police chief Sr. Supt. Sammy Pagdilao, Region IV Police Director Domingo Reyes Jr., PNP chief Deputy Director General Hermogenes Ebdane and Trece Martires Mayor Melencio de Sagun Jr.

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Manila dads to study Pandacan depot pact

By Jerome Aning

MANILA councilors yesterday said they will "carefully scrutinize" the agreement that will extend operations at the Pandacan fuel depot signed by City Hall, the energy department and the country's three big oil firms.

"The memorandum of agreement between parties will remain a piece of paper unless ratified by us," independent councilor Isko Moreno told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

He said the MOU will pass through the proverbial eye of the needle when Mayor Lito Atienza forwards the agreement to the council.

The actor-turned-politician has been designated acting vice mayor and presiding officer of the Council when the body resumes its session next month. Vice Mayor Danilo Lacuna is on leave.

Minority floor leader Don Ramon Bagatsing predicted the MOU will have a "smooth sailing" in the Council, which is dominated by allies of the mayor.

Bagatsing said the MOU is "a victory for the city government," which tried in vain to evict the depots in 1968 and 1993.

"Mindful of the national interest and the country's economic and political stability, I'm sure the opposition and majority councilors will approve the MOU," he said in a phone interview.

In the MOU, the parties agreed that the scaling down of operations of the oil terminal is the "most viable and practical option."

"The security and development aspects of the controversy, have been answered at least partially; but more importantly, we have the commitment of the oil firms," Bagatsing said.

But Moreno believed that the mayor was "wrong" when he "softened" on the issue.

"As the (city's) chief executive, he is still responsible to the Council for implementing the ordinance, even if he had softened his stand on the issue," he said.

On the MOU, Moreno said "the residents of Pandacan on the MOU will have to be consulted since they are the ones principally affected by depot's presence."

Tempers shoot up over Skyway toll hike

By Christian V. Esguerra

TEMPERS have been shooting up at tollgates in southern Metro Manila after operators of the Skyway system announced yet another round of increase in rates.

In the past few days, payment of tolls took longer than usual because motorists using the elevated and the at-grade sections of the Skyway have been questioning the increase, as announced through huge billboards posted at the tollgates.

"They're milking us again," a taxi driver said in Filipino, referring to the PNCC Skyway Corp., which operates the Skyway system.

A group of lawyers residing in the area was set to ask the Court of Appeals yesterday to stop the new round of toll increase, said Ray Junia, who heads residents opposing the increase.

The PNCC Skyway Corp. on Monday will implement the second round of provisional rate increase, according to Ramon Borromeo, spokesperson of the Citra Metro Manila Tollways Corp. (CMMTC) which built the Skyway in 1995.

For Class 1 vehicles, rates at the elevated section from Buendia to Bicutan will increase from P65 to P75, while those at the at-grade portion from Magallanes to Bicutan will be jacked up by P5, from P15 to P20. Rates at the at-grade section from Bicutan to Sucat and from Sucat to Alabang will increase from P9 to P11. Class 1 vehicles include cars, jeepneys, pick-ups, and vans.

Toll at the elevated section, which is commonly known as the Skyway, cost P55, while that at the at-grade from Magallanes to Bicutan amounted to P10.50 before the first round of provisional increase that took effect in January.

Also on Monday, the "Skyway" rate for Class 2 vehicles such as light trucks and tourist buses will cost P150. Drivers of Class 3 vehicles like trailer trucks will have to pay P225.

Borromeo yesterday appealed to motorists to "tolerate" the increase, saying it would be used to improve the Skyway system and pay for the US$414 million debt which the CMMTC incurred when it built the road system.

Solon threatens to cut water firms' franchise if they don't shape up

By Tina Santos

CALOOCAN City Rep. Enrico "Recom" Echiverri yesterday warned the two private water concessionaires that their franchise would be revoked if they do not improve their services.

Echiverri, deputy majority leader from Caloocan's district 1, said he will file a bill that will revoke the government franchise given to Manila Water Company (MWC) and the Maynilad Water Services (MWS) after the two firms announced an increase in water rates.

"That's only a warning, but they should not ignore it because I would not hesitate to cancel their congressional franchises," Echiverri said.

He added he had already received the assurance of his colleagues that they would support the measure once he filed it.

Echiverri said most residents of Caloocan and nearby areas have been complaining about the diggings, particularly on major streets, being undertaken by the two concessionaires.

The solon also claimed that most areas in the metropolis have been deprived of clean and potable water "because of (the concessionaires') negligence."

"These water concessionaires have not been rendering proper services to the people," Echiverri said. "They don't seem to be doing their jobs properly, yet they have the guts to ask for an increase in rates."

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Stop using Pangarap residents, claimant urges local politicians

By Tina Santos

CARMEL Development Inc., which claims ownership of the contested 156-hectare Pangarap Village in Caloocan City, yesterday urged local officials and land syndicates to stop "using the residents" and end the property dispute.

"Definitely, the residents are the ones being used by these politicians," said Rene Faustino, chief operating officer of Carmel Development. "The residents keep on holding on to these politicians' promises that the property would be given back to them when, in fact, (the politicians) have an ulterior motive for fighting for the case—they want to gain the credit as 'champion of the masses.'"

Caloocan City Mayor Reynaldo Malonzo earlier said that the property owned by businessman Gregorio "Greggy" Araneta III could be sequestered and awarded to the residents if the company fails to pay its tax obligations amounting to more than P20 million.

"They should not decide on the basis of personal bias," Faustino said. "(If we were) negligent (in) settling our obligations, why did they only send us an assessment without the pertinent details?"

On the reversion case of Caloocan City District 1 Rep. Enrico "Recom" Echiverri, which he urged the Office of the Solicitor General to file against Carmel to reclaim the disputed property and award the parcels to some 30,000 families, Faustino believed that for the case to prosper "would be impossible due to lack of evidence."

"Echiverri knew this, being a lawyer himself," Faustino said. "He, along with other local officials, should have told the residents the truth about the rightful owner of Pangarap Village, instead of using the situation for political reasons."

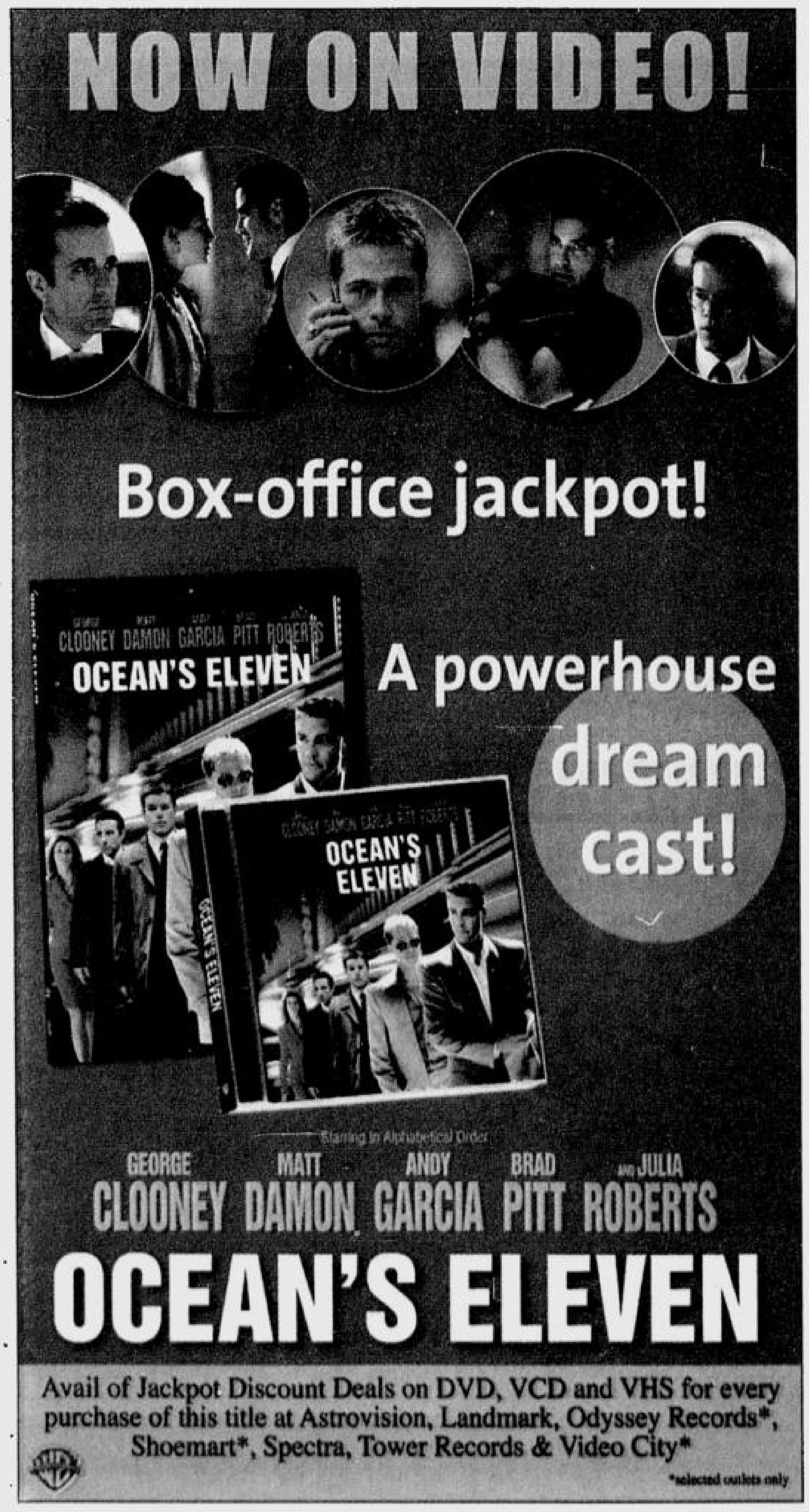
Faustino said Echiverri had led residents to believe that they stand a big chance of owning the land after the Aranetas, who used to own the property since 1958, allegedly failed to pay the previous owners of the estate in full.

"The Aranetas have acquired the property in good faith and the sale was legal. We have pertinent papers to show?" Faustino said.

But Echiverri, in a phone interview, denied Faustino's claims.

"I am just exercising what a congressman needs to exercise," Echiverri said. "In my battle against a single person, I know I would be able to help a lot."

Echiverri also expressed confidence that the reversion case would prosper as investigation conducted by various agencies such as the Land Management Bureau reportedly showed that the property was not properly paid.



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Caloocan firm owners cry harassment

THE OWNERS of a Caloocan City factory on Wednesday accused the barangay chair in their area of harassment, when the latter filed a petition against the firm owners to stop them from manufacturing metal exhaust pipes.

"The residents were just being used by barangay chair Nestor Samson for his personal interest," said Juliet Sy, one of the stockholders of New Rockford Manufacturing Corp. on Palon Street, 10th Avenue, Grace Park, Caloocan.

Sy said Samson was just seeking revenge after the firm's management asked the local official in January to remove the barangay hall constructed near the factory's main gate.

"He already built an outpost at the other side of our factory which we did not oppose," Sy said. "And he again constructed another structure."

Sy also revealed that the construction of the said barangay outpost also put the firm's security at risk, as there were several instances when unidentified men attempted to sneak into the factory by passing through the outpost's roof.

The firm also accused Samson of attempting to extort P3,000 a month from management.

Samson earlier said about 200 residents of Baltazar 3, 4 and Palon streets filed a petition against the factory because of "incessant noise it produces, reaching intolerable levels."

He added the residents also protested the way factory personnel allegedly disposed its toxic waste and the drivers' recklessness.

But Sy denied this, saying their company does not produce poisonous materials and toxic waste.

Tina Santos

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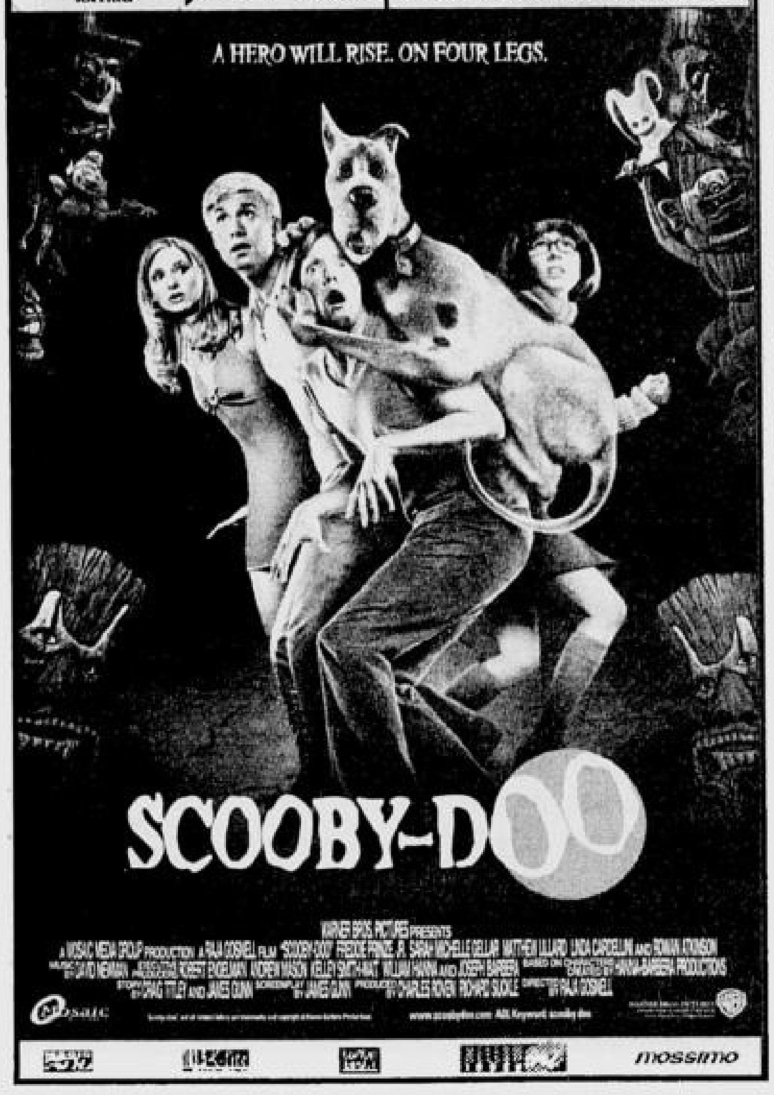
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tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	
2	
3	
4	TAMPISAW
5 (SDDS)	MINORITY REPORT
6	FOREVERMORE
7 (DOLBY)	MINORITY REPORT
8	FOREVERMORE

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	FOREVERMORE
2	TAMPISAW
3 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
4	FOREVERMORE
5 (SDDS)	MINORITY REPORT

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	FOREVERMORE

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	FOREVERMORE

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	TAMPISAW
Lords	TAMPISAW
Jennet	RESERVE

MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	FOREVERMORE
2	MINORITY REPORT
3	TAMPISAW

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	MINORITY REPORT
2	TAMPISAW
3	RESERVE
4	FOREVERMORE
5	RESERVE

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

FRC Cinema
Talaba Bacoor Cavite

1	RESERVE
2	TAMPISAW

Berma
TEL. 8792030 / 8792029

1	FOREVERMORE
2	TAMPISAW

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	
2	

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	A WALK TO REMEMBER
2	FOREVERMORE
3 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	FOREVERMORE
2 (DTS)	A WALK TO REMEMBER
3 (DOLBY)	MINORITY REPORT
4	SUM OF ALL FEARS

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	FOREVERMORE
2 (DOLBY)	A WALK TO REMEMBER
3 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
4	SCOOBY DOO

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	DISKARTE
2	FOREVERMORE
3	MINORITY REPORT
4	

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1	FOREVERMORE
2	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
3 (DOLBY)	RESIDENT EVIL
4 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	MINORITY REPORT
2	TAMPISAW
3	PAMASAK NG BUTAS
4 (DTS)	FOREVERMORE

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	MINORITY REPORT
2	FOREVERMORE
3 (DTS)	A WALK TO REMEMBER
4	MAMASAN
5	PAGSALUHAN NATIN

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	MAGKAPATID
2	FOREVERMORE
3	MAMASAN

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249-2558

1	SCOOBY DOO
2	FOREVERMORE
3	MAMASAN

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	DISKARTE
2	MAGKAPATID
3	MAMASAN

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	
2	
3	

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	FOREVERMORE
2 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	CLOSED

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	MAMASAN
2	FOREVERMORE
3	PAGSALUHAN NATIN

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	SCOOBY DOO
3	MAMASAN
4	FOREVERMORE

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	SUM OF ALL FEARS
2	PANIC ROOM
3 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
4	A WALK TO REMEMBER

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MINORITY REPORT

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999

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4173868

1	FOREVERMORE
2	MAGKAPATID
3	MINORITY REPORT
4	SCOOBY DOO
5	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
6	FOREVERMORE
7	TAMPISAW
8	DISKARTE

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522 -7161416

1	FOREVERMORE
2	A WALK TO REMEMBER
3	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
4	MAGKAPATID
5	MINORITY REPORT
6	DISKARTE
7	MINORITY REPORT
8	TAMPISAW
9	SCOOBY DOO
10	FOREVERMORE

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
2	A WALK TO REMEMBER
3	MAGKAPATID
4	MINORITY REPORT
5	SCOOBY DOO
6	FOREVERMORE
7	MINORITY REPORT
8	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
9	FOREVERMORE
10	TAMPISAW
11	MONSTER'S BALL
12	DISKARTE

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	SCOOBY DOO
2	A WALK TO REMEMBER
3	AMELIE
4	MINORITY REPORT
5	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
6	MINORITY REPORT
7	I THINK I'M IN LOVE
8	TAMPISAW
9	FOREVERMORE
10	MAGKAPATID
11	DISKARTE
12	FOREVERMORE

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	A WALK TO REMEMBER
3	SCOOBY DOO
4	MINORITY REPORT
5	MONSTER'S BALL
6	MINORITY REPORT
7	DISKARTE
8	FOREVERMORE
9	FOREVERMORE
10	SUM OF ALL FEARS
11	MAGKAPATID
12	TAMPISAW

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1	A WALK TO REMEMBER
2	MINORITY REPORT
3	MAGKAPATID
4	FOREVERMORE
5	FOREVERMORE
6	SCOOBY DOO
7	SUM OF ALL FEARS
8	MINORITY REPORT
9	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
10	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
11	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
12	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM SOUTHMALL
8066888

1	FOREVERMORE
2	A WALK TO REMEMBER
3	MINORITY REPORT
4	SCOOBY DOO
5	TAMPISAW
6	DISKARTE
7	FOREVERMORE
8	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
9	MAGKAPATID
10	MINORITY REPORT

SM CITY CEBU
2313976

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
3	MONSTER'S BALL
4	MAGKAPATID
5	SCOOBY DOO
6	PAGSALUHAN
7	FOREVERMORE
8	MINORITY REPORT

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1	DRAGONFLY
2	CLOSED
3	SCOOBY DOO
4	FOREVERMORE
5	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
6	MINORITY REPORT
7	CLOSED
8	MAMASAN

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7126015

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	SCOOBY DOO
3	PANIC ROOM
4	MAGKAPATID
5	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
6	FOREVERMORE

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

1	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
2	MINORITY REPORT
3	FOREVERMORE
4	SCOOBY DOO

SM CINEMA GUADALUPE
8820984

1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
3	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	TAMPISAW
3	MAGKAPATID
4	FOREVERMORE

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	FOREVERMORE
3	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
4	FRUIT IS SWELLING
5	FOREVERMORE
6	SCOOBY DOO

SM BICUTAN

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN! 4 NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART VISION & SOUND

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN! 4 NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART VISION & SOUND

THE PODIUM
18 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City

1	SCOOBY DOO
2	MINORITY REPORT

W/ LATE NIGHT SCREENING ON WEEKENDS 6389781-85

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1 THX	MINORITY REPORT
2	MINORITY REPORT
3	SUM OF ALL FEARS
4	SCOOBY DOO
5	FOREVERMORE
6	MINORITY REPORT
7	MAGKAPATID
8	SCOOBY DOO
9	A WALK TO REMEMBER
10	AMELIE

Ermita 536-7809-12

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	SUM OF ALL FEARS
3	AMELIE
4	A WALK TO REMEMBER
5	FOREVERMORE
6	SCOOBY DOO
7	MINORITY REPORT

Metro East - Marcos hway 682-8193 / 8280

1	SUM OF ALL FEARS
2	MINORITY REPORT
3	SCOOBY DOO
4	FOREVERMORE
5	A WALK TO REMEMBER
6	FOREVERMORE
7	MINORITY REPORT
8	MAGKAPATID

Novaliches 935-3229-30

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	MINORITY REPORT
3	SCOOBY DOO
4	MAGKAPATID
5	FOREVERMORE
6	TAMPISAW
7	A WALK TO REMEMBER
8	SUM OF ALL FEARS

Imus 471-8188 / 875-3838

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	TAMPISAW
3	SCOOBY DOO
4	SUM OF ALL FEARS
5	FOREVERMORE
6	MAGKAPATID

Bacolod 441-0453 / 0459

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	SCOOBY DOO
3	FOREVERMORE
4	SUM OF ALL FEARS
5	DRAGONFLY
6	MAGKAPATID

Iloilo 336-8077-78

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	FOREVERMORE
3	DRAGONFLY
4	MAMASAN
5	SCOOBY DOO
6	SUM OF ALL FEARS

Star Mills- Sn Fernando, Pamp 875-1927 / 961-5318 / 5270

1	PANIC ROOM
2	SCOOBY DOO
3	MINORITY REPORT
4	FOREVERMORE
5	SUM OF ALL FEARS
6	SUM OF ALL FEARS

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- * UTANG NI TATANG
- * MAMASAN
- * I THINK I'M IN LOVE
- * MAGKAPATID

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call-a-movie 536-7812

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In 1521 Magellan discovered the Philippines.

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JULIE HIVON

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Canadian Embassy *Ambassade du Canada*

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AYALA CINEMAS

PRESENTS

CREME GLACEE
CHOCOLAT
ET AUTRES CONSOLATIONS

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G1 GLORIETTA 1	G4 GLORIETTA 4	GB1 GREENBELT 1	GB3 GREENBELT 3	ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1 SCOOBY DOO	1 SCOOBY DOO	1 SCOOBY DOO	1 THE SUM OF ALL FEARS 11:05, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:25, 12:00	1 MINORITY REPORT
2 THE SUM OF ALL FEARS	2 FOREVERMORE	2 MINORITY REPORT	2 MINORITY REPORT 12:00, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00, 12:00	2 THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
3 FOREVER-MORE	3 MINORITY REPORT 12:00, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00, 12:00	3 THE SUM OF ALL FEARS	3 AMELIE 10:50, 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50, 11:20	3 MINORITY REPORT
4 MINORITY REPORT	4 AMELIE	Onstage MARTIN NIEVERA BACK ONSTAGE 9:00 PM June 28 & 29	4 MONSTER'S BALL 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00	4 AMELIE
	5 A WALK TO REMEMBER		5 SCOOBY DOO 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00	5 SCOOBY DOO
	6 MINORITY REPORT			
	7 THE SUM OF ALL FEARS			

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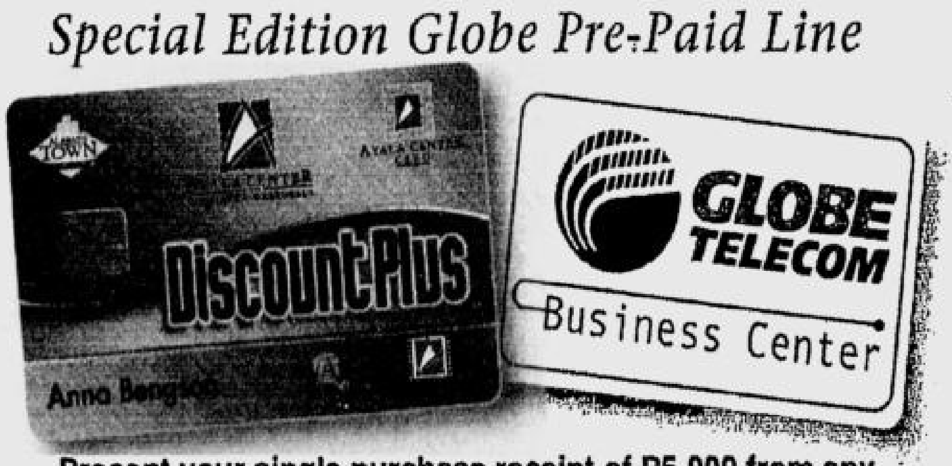
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ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	FOREVERMORE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	MAGKAPATID
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	MINORITY REPORT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	SUM OF ALL FEARS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	SCOOBY DOO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	A WALK TO REMEMBER
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	TAMPISAW
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	MINORITY REPORT
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	KASIBULAN / TEMPTATION NIGHT
ODEON	MINORITY REPORT
ODEON-2	DISKARTE
ROBEN	TAMPISAW
TANDEM-1	MAMASAN
TANDEM-2	MONSTER'S BALL
TIMES	TIME MACHINE / QUEEN OF THE DAMNED
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	TAMPISAW
REMAR	MINORITY REPORT
REMAR-2	TAMPISAW
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	FOREVERMORE
B	TAMPISAW
C	SUPER B
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	AMELIE
CINEMA-2	MINORITY REPORT
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	DISKARTE
CINEMA-2	TAMPISAW
CINEMA-3	FOREVERMORE
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	MINORITY REPORT
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	FOREVERMORE
CINEMA-6	MONSTER'S BALL
CINEMA-7	MAGKAPATID
CINEMA-8	A WALK TO REMEMBER
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	MINORITY REPORT
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	SCOOBY DOO
CINEMA-12	SUM OF ALL FEARS
CINEMA-14	AMELIE
CINEMA-15	FOREVERMORE
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	FOREVERMORE
CINEMA-2	SCOOBY DOO
CINEMA-3	SUM OF ALL FEARS
CINEMA-4	MINORITY REPORT
CINEMA-5	MONSTER'S BALL
CINEMA-6	MINORITY REPORT
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PINAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA-4	ALAMID

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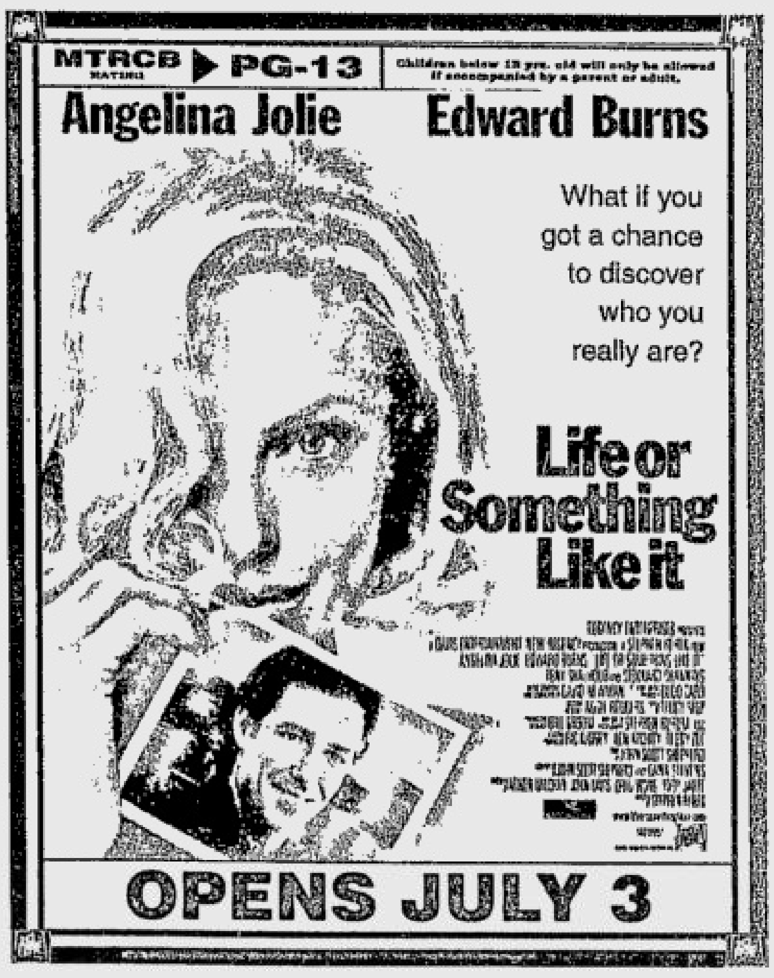
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Edward Burns
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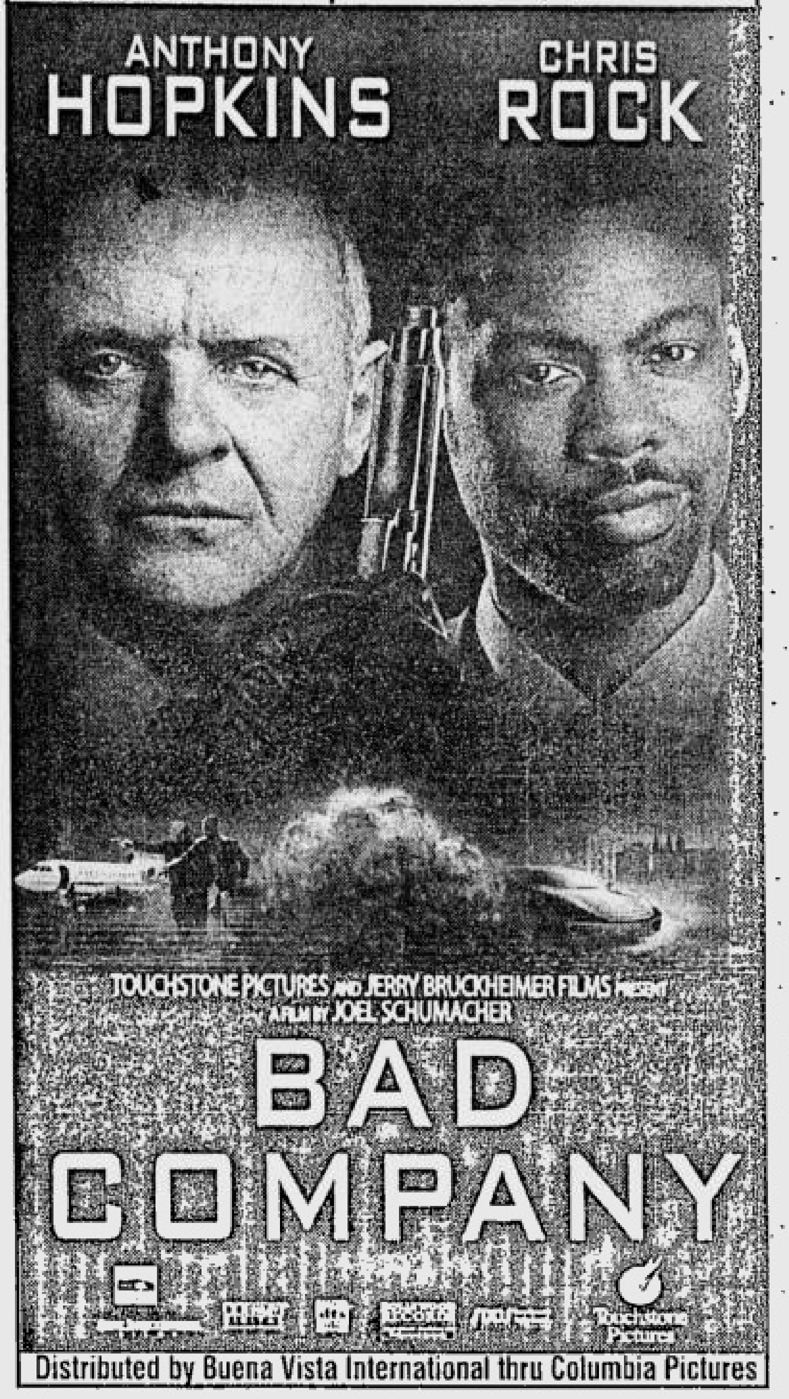
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Forevermore
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STAR CINEMA

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SATURDAY,
JUNE 29, 2002
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BUSINESS

Editor Raul O. Marcelo ◉ Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

Are you pumped up to win?
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You can still hit the jackpot and win thousands in cash or a Petron car showcase in our Grand Draw.

Money-laundering law seen inadequate

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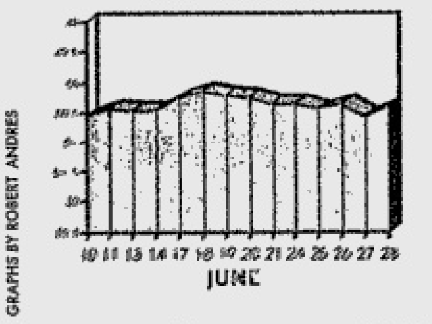
CURRENCIES

PESO - DOLLAR



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱50.42 = $1
As of 5 p.m., June 28, 2002

¥119.22 = $1
As of 5 p.m., June 28, 2002

GOLD: $319.30/319.80
per ounce Hong Kong,
June 28, 2002

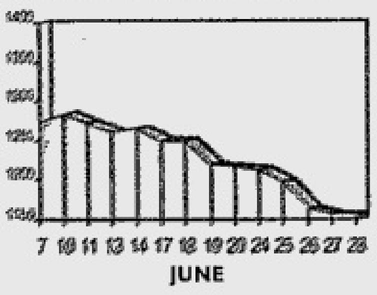
STOCK MARKET

Stocks close slightly lower

SHARES closed mixed yesterday with investors waiting for fresh incentives before going back to the market, including second quarter corporate earnings which will not begin to come out until late next month.

At the end of the first half of the year, the stock market has erased all its gains since late 2001 and went down from its position at the end of the first quarter as one of the region's best performers.

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B2)

The main index has contracted about one percent over the six-month period, compared to about a 24-percent surge since the start of the year around February.

Yesterday, the index fell 1.46 points, or 0.13 percent, to 1,156.35 points, a new six-month low.

Power retailer Meralco's "B" shares led the losers, falling 50 centavos or 1.67 percent at P29.50, on questions about the firm's rate hike petition, which regulators were supposed to decide on this week.

No decision has yet been announced and traders said they were concerned because the deadline had been missed.

"People are in a wait-and-see mode. There's lack of any market-moving stories and . . . a quarter has just passed. Investors are looking at indications of second quarter earnings," said Oliver Plana, an analyst at Asiasec Equities Inc.

Reuters

By Elena R. Torrijos

THE FINANCIAL Action Task Force, the international watchdog on money laundering, has found the country's Anti-Money Laundering Act unsatisfactory, initial feedback indicated.

SEC Chair and Anti-Money Laundering Council member Lilia Bautista said this might mean that the Philippines would have to amend the law in order to avoid international sanctions again.

She said that the AMLC has yet to receive official word from the FATF but, based on initial reports, the global anti-money laundering body found the P4-million threshold on covered transactions under the law as too high.

The FATF also believed that the law did not relax the country's strict bank secrecy laws enough because it failed to give sufficient authority to regulators to examine bank deposits of alleged money launderers.

AMLC chair and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura led a team, including Bautista, that went to France earlier this month to convince the FATF that the Anti-Money Laundering Act enacted in September last year was good enough for the FATF's requirements to get the Philippines off a list of uncooperative countries in the fight against money laundering.

The FATF had been evaluating the law and should soon say whether it was satisfactory enough or needed amendment or whether more information was required.

Bautista said the FATF had earlier expressed its concern over the high threshold limit and the country's strict bank secrecy provision and the government had already offered compromises but these apparently seemed inadequate.

"The best way to avoid sanctions is to amend it," Bautista said.

Under the Amla, depositors with at least P4 million should file a report on their background and means of income. In other countries, however, the minimum threshold to trigger reportorial requirements was an average of $10,000 to $15,000.

Bautista said the FATF could also not understand why regulators did not have the power to look into bank accounts.

Legal issues seen delaying Gokongwei's bid by 4 years

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

JG Summit Corp. chair emeritus John Gokongwei is likely to wait a few more years before realizing his ambition to be the country's telecommunications kingpin as the legal roadblocks set up by Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. president Manuel V. Pangilinan to repel the taipan's takeover could take at least 4 years to resolve.

A source from the Pangilinan bloc yesterday said past corporate squabbles similar to the current PLDT battle took years before the courts made a resolution. The source estimated that each legal barrier set up by the Pangilinan camp could take at least four to five years to come to a resolution.

Pangilinan's camp has belittled First Pacific Corp.'s legal arguments, defending its deal with Gokongwei based on a recent disclosure made by the Hong Kong conglomerate.

The source said the disclosure showed that First Pacific was intent on side-stepping the issue on conflict of interest and circumventing its shareholders' pact with PLDT minority shareholder Nippon Telephone and Telegraph.

PLDT vice president Butch Jimenez, meantime, said the board and management would vigorously challenge the First Pacific-Gokongwei deal because it was in gross violation of corporate by-laws regardless of the choice of corporate vehicle.

In a disclosure to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, First Pacific claimed that Gokongwei was not a strategic investor which it defined as a person engaged in a business involving the provision of telecommunication services and multi-media services. Gokongwei owns Digital Telecommunications, PLDT's main rival in landline operations and future foe in mobile phone services.

A shareholders' pact between First Pacific and NTT bars the transfer of PLDT shares to a strategic investor before March 24, 2003, un-

LEGAL/ B2

Fitch ratings show vote of confidence in RP

CREDIT appraiser Fitch Ratings' affirmation of its "stable" outlook on the Philippines is a vote of confidence in the government's ability to control the budget deficit, Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho said yesterday.

The international agency affirmed the Philippines' sovereign ratings with a long-term foreign currency rating of "BB+," a long-term local currency rating of "BBB-," a short-term foreign currency rating of "B," and a stable outlook.

"This recognizes that we have made significant progress over the past 18 months in stabilizing our economy and that we are committed to the fiscal discipline that has contributed to our success," Camacho said in a statement.

Camacho said the affirmed rating showed confidence in the government's commitment to keep its budget deficit for the year within the previously announced ceiling of P130 billion.

He said the government would implement a "mix of planned revenue enhancements and expenditure control measures" that would bring the deficit under control.

AFP

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Bug brother

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

RAVAGING our weak manufacturing sector, for almost six years now, is this strange monstrous extraterrestrial bug.

No, that bug is not the big brother of Teofisto Guingona. This bug is the Vice President, foreign afffairs secretary and Lakas party president—all rolled into one.

Because of his many titles and positions, and the little time he has for all of them, the bug can show to everybody he is more powerful than the President of the Republic.

Anyway, I refer to a different kind of bug more commonly known as "giving up" (scientific name—*surrenderius defeatistorum guingonae*).

Nobody wants to fight the imported goods from China anymore, particularly luxury items like fake CDs and DVDs, and necessities like earwax removers.

Everybody complains: "China enjoys a humanity of cheap labor, while our electricity is murder." People in manufacturing are turning into worldclass crybabies.

That's why I jumped for joy when I read about a recent order of the Court of Appeals regarding cement importation (scientific name—*f..king dumping*).

* * *

IN EFFECT, the court told the Department of Trade and Industry, the Tariff Commission, and all the merciless cement importers out there to . . . well, just back off, OK?

The court ruled that some "safeguard measures" must stay. They are against cement dumping from abroad. They must stay for now while it is hearing the case.

The case was filed by Philcemcor, the association of local cement companies, which is labeled as a "cartel" in the PR campaign of cement importers.

In the case, Philcemcor questioned the decision of Trade Secretary Mar Roxas, still a bachelor, which is not the reason he surrendered to the Tariff Commission.

Many moons ago, Roxas already imposed "safeguard measures" against cement dumping, such as the P20 tariff per bag of cement, because it was killing the locals.

But using its recommendatory power, the Tariff Commission said Roxas was wrong. In other words, the locals must accept their fate, roll over and just die.

Roxas called the very same report ugly names, such as "flawed framework" or "inconsistent inferences" or "erroneous methodology." Then he proceeded to adopt it.

* * *

THUS I went wild over the injunction order of the Court of Appeals. So I kissed Larry Sipin. It gives us a little hope. It's a little victory for our manufacturing crybabies.

The Philcemcor case is testing the Safeguard Measures Act. This is the law to ease the ill effects of globalization. Among them is the death of local industries.

On our own, six years ago, we tried to outdo the WTO. We showed off by cutting tariffs on everything much ahead and much more than we had to, under the WTO.

In other countries, they protect their own industries. In Taiwan, for instance, they recently imposed tariff of 42 to 104.48 percent on cement from the Philippines.

Here our masochism led to the death or near-death of sectors like steel, battery, tire, ceramic tile, poultry, and petrochemical.

That's why a lot of our manufacturing companies are giving up. Local brands of shoes and garments are now all made in China. Everything is made in China.

Even William Gatchalian closed down his plastic factory. Even this guy who does not follow the rules, once known as Public Enemy No. 1 for smuggling, cannot compete.

* * *

STILL the talk of the business town is Interior Secretary Jose Lina's sharp ax. It already removed seven top police officers from their positions.

Joey Lina even said—boasted?—that more heads will roll. So who said it's Joey by day and Lina by night? I thought that was very courageous of the secretary.

Joey "by day" is seriously trying to eradicate jueteng from the face of the earth in one year. He thinks jueteng cannot thrive without police "protection."

If there is any jueteng in any area, based on the doctrine of Joey "by day," the police should own the blame. He should suck the top officers.

Here comes Mary Ong, aka Rosebud, saying that Joey "by day" relieved the police officers, because they were the enemies of Sen. Panfilo "Ping" Lacson. Whaaat?

Will somebody please tell this woman to shut up! So Lina and Lacson are allies! Is that what she is saying? And under what mental condition is she saying it?

* * *

IT'S true that some in the police think that Joey "by day" is a joke. Jueteng and other illegal gambling are as rampant as ever, and they are rampant all over the country.

If Joey "by day" takes his campaign seriously, and he is not just preventing the axing of his own head, he should relieve the entire PNP top brass.

And so his ax should swing all the way to Camp Crame. Otherwise, public cynicism will only go up, dismissing his initiative as just scoring some pogi points.

It's obvious that the level of frustration in our society is getting high. Numbers can prove it. The frustration shows in the surveys.

If Joey "by day" thinks his axing the seven PNP officers can polish the image of the entire police force, well and good. It's his opinion. Will it really help?

Today a lot of people don't really feel safe, mainly because people cannot trust the police, to do their job. And it's not only about jueteng, forgodsakes.

Joey "by day" is just doing a little cosmetic makeover. It is not going to make all the kidnapping and killing and what have you disappear. Then we all migrate to China.

DISCLOSURES

THE BOARD of **Filinvest Land Inc.** approved the appointment of the following officers: Mercedes Gotianun, chair; Andrew Gotianun Jr., vice chair; Joseph Yap, president; Efren Reyes, treasurer; and Benedicto Panganiban, secretary.

* * *

PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co. signed a subscription agreement with **Pilipino Telephone Co.** where it subscribed to 153,000 shares out of the 1;154,107 unissued shares of Class 1, Series J preferred stock of Piltel at a subscription price of P1,000 per share.

* * *

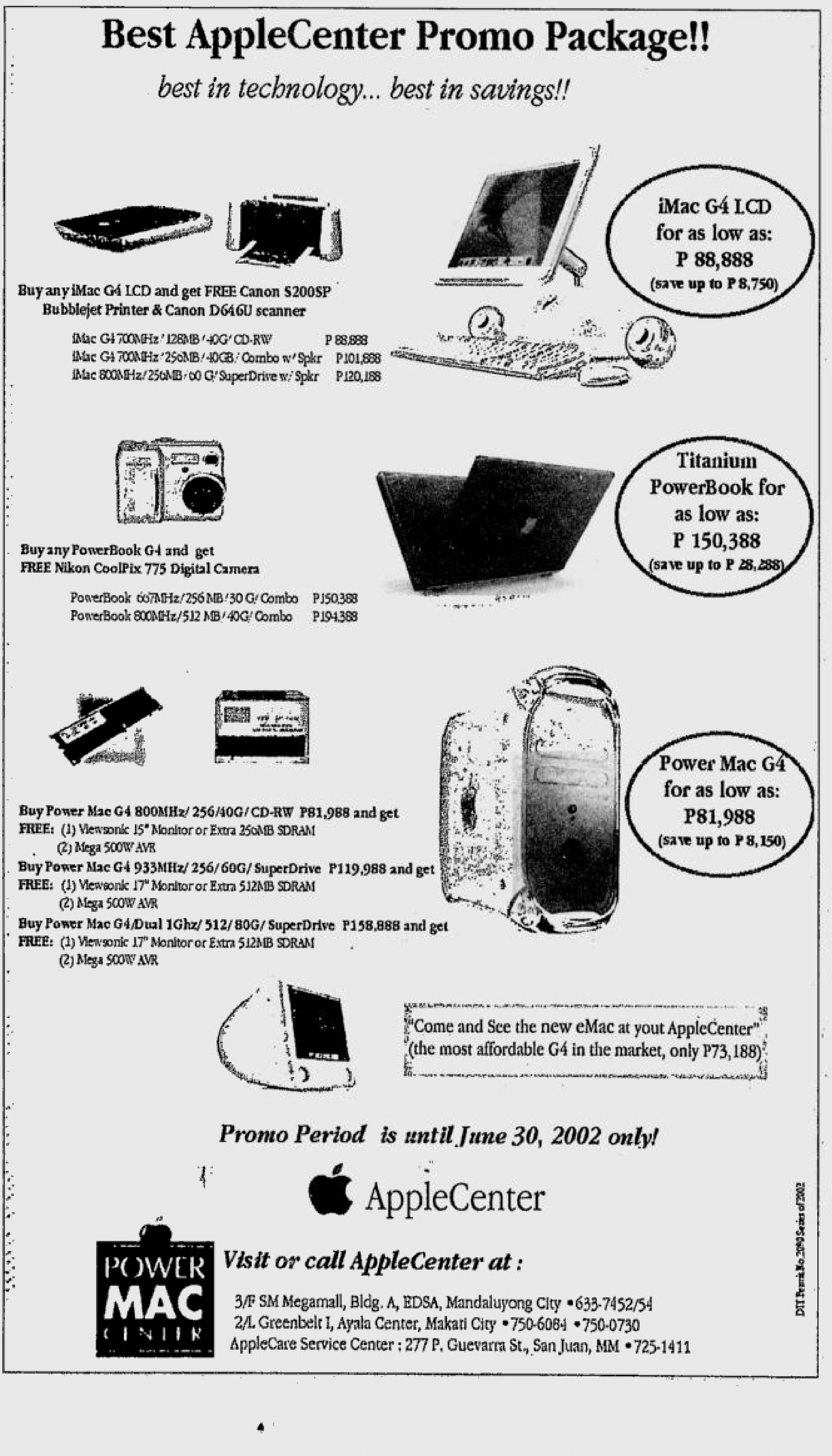
MONDRAGON International Philippines Inc. said that the interim agreement of **Mondragon Leisure and Resorts Corp.** and **Clark Development Corp.** will expire by the end of June and has been extended for another period of one year.

* * *

ELECTED officers of **F&J Prince Holdings Corp.** were Amparo Barcelon, chair; Robert Cokeng, president and vice chair; Emeterio Barcelon, SVP; Johnson Co, treasurer; Manuel Dy, assistant treasurer, and Roman Pacia Jr., corporate secretary.

* * *

A MEMORANDUM of understanding between the **Department of Energy**, **City of Manila** and the oil companies (**Petron Corp.**, **Pilipinas Shell Corp.**, and **Caltex Philippines**) was signed on June 26. They agreed that the oil companies would scale down their Pandacan terminals through the removal/decommissioning of tanks, the establishment of joint operations and the creation of safety and green buffer zones.



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DTI Permit No. 2090 Series of 2002

Gov't junks meat ban

THE DEPARTMENT of Agriculture has deferred the implementation of an administrative order that prohibits the transport of fresh and manufactured meat products from Luzon to the Visayas and Mindanao.

This decision came after meat processors, including McDonald's franchise holder McGeorge Foods Corp. and Jollibee Foods Corp., asked agriculture officials to clarify the administrative order.

Administrative Order No. 5 prohibits the transfer of fresh meat and semi-processed meat, including hamburger patties, beef tapa, bacon, meatballs and tocino, from Luzon to provinces in the Visayas and Mindanao unless cleared by accredited quarantine companies to prevent the spread of the foot and mouth disease.

"The implementing rules and requirements are not clear so there was a deferment of implementation," Philippine Association of Meat Processors Inc. executive director Francisco Buencamino told reporters.

The Bureau of Animal Industry said the agriculture department was looking at implementing the administration order next month.

Agriculture officials decided to restrict the movement of fresh and manufactured meat products after the World Trade Organization certified Masbate and Palawan provinces and the Visayas as FMD-free areas. ***Christine A. Gaylican***

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Friday, June 28, 2002)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco De Oro Univ. Bank	17.75	19	17.75	18.75	543,600
Bank of the Phil. Islands	47.5	48.5	47	48	1,300,900
China Banking Corp.	630	630	630	630	2,900
Chinatrust Comm. Bank	18	18	18	18	1,000
Citystate Savings Bank	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	2,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	31	31.5	31	31.5	187,000
First E-Bank Corp.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	60,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	33	34	33	33.5	780,900
Philippine National Bank	35	35	33	34	55,700
Phil. Savings Bank	26.5	28	26.5	28	600
Security Bank Corp.	14	14	14	14	102,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	20.5	20.5	19.75	19.75	89,100
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Filipino Fund Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	60,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1380	1400	1380	1390	2,840
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1075	1080	1075	1080	17,340
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	22.75	22.75	22.75	22.75	1,000
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.71	0.72	0.7	0.7	660,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	550	550	520	520	55,790
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.031	0.031	0.031	0.031	500,000
Ism Communications Corp.	0.031	0.031	0.03	0.03	5,000,000
Piltel	0.33	0.36	0.33	0.34	4,470,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	372.5	380	370	370	217,870
Ivantage Corp.	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	10,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.014	0.014	0.013	0.014	87,400,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	21	21	20.75	20.75	18,900
Manila Electric Co. B	30.5	30.5	29	29.5	1,663,000
Petron Corp.	1.68	1.72	1.68	1.7	5,607,000
Salcon Power Corp.	1.66	1.68	1.66	1.68	150,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	20,000
Transportation Services					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.46	2.48	2.4	2.44	1,095,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.38	0.4	0.38	0.4	490,000
William, Gothong & Aboitiz	2.26	2.26	2.26	2.26	75,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Phil Nat'l Const. Corp.	3.15	3.15	3.05	3.05	150,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp	1.68	1.68	1.68	1.68	150,000
Union Cement Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	300,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.28	2.3	2.28	2.3	60,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	8,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	59,300
La Tondena Distillers Inc.	33	33	33	33	54,200
Swift Food, Inc.	1.12	1.12	1.1	1.1	8,000
San Miguel Corp. A	48.5	48.5	47.5	48.5	357,200
San Miguel Corp. B	52	52	51	51	384,000
Universal Robina Corp.	4.55	4.55	4.4	4.55	154,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	240,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	1,133,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	2.3	2.3	2.28	2.28	1,623,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	3,000,000
Atn Holdings Inc.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	40,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	200,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.39	0.4	0.35	0.35	10,580,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	100,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	2,050,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	21	21	20.25	20.5	104,400
Global Equities Inc.	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.105	10,000
Ionics Inc.	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.1	23,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.6	1.6	1.58	1.6	2,300,000
Macroasia Corp.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	40,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.71	0.72	0.7	0.72	2,640,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.28	2,190,000
Unioil Res. & Holdings Co.	0.032	0.032	0.032	0.032	100,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.08	0 08	0.08	0.08	600,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Active Alliance Inc.	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	20,000
Corro-Coat Inc.	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	5,000
Lmg Chemicals Corp	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	12,521,000
Metro Alliance Holdings	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	20,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0 0525	0.0525	0.0525	0.0525	500,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.31	0.32	0.31	0.32	1,390,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	240,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.23	400,000
Mondragon Intl Phils Inc.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	250,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.13	0.13	0 13	0.13	420,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	22.5	22.5	22.25	22.5	231,700
Globe Telecom Hldg (Pdr)	640	640	635	635	660
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	400
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT 10% Pref Series Bb	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	200
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	8	8	8	8	1,000
Far Eastern University	425	425	425	425	270
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.6	7,929,000
Cityland Development Corp.	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	38,000
Cebu Holdings, Inc.	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	320,000
C & P Homes, Inc.	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	200,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	150,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	800,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2.26	2.3	2.22	2.28	5,157,000
Highlands Prime Leisure	1.64	1.74	1.62	1.74	560,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	250,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.085	0.085	0.08	0.08	6,100,000
SM Development Corp.	0.86	0.89	0.86	0.89	60,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.5	6,991,000
Universal Rightfield Prop	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	600,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	1,000,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	190,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.205	810,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.015	100,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	150,000
OIL					
Interport Res. B	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	0.0034	3,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	3,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	6,000,000
Pacifica	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	1,000,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	300,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	20,000

CURRENCIES

June 28, 2002

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.011941	1.000000	50.4180
Japan	Yen	0.008465	0.008365	0.4217
United Kingdom	Pound	1.546853	1.528600	77.0690
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.129738	0.128207	6.4639
Switzerland	Franc	0.679794	0.671772	33.8694
Canada	Dollar	0.669317	0.661419	33.3474
Singapore	Dollar	0.572624	0.565867	28.5299
Australia	Dollar	0.570751	0.564016	28.4366
Bahrain	Dinar	2.684336	2.652661	133.7419
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.269829	0.266645	13.4437
Brunei	Dollar	0.571298	0.564557	28.4638
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000117	0.000116	0.0058
Thailand	Baht	0.024337	0.024050	1.2126
UAE	Dirham	0.275523	0.272272	13.7274
Korea	Won	0.000852	0.000842	0.0425
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.988200	49.8231
Argentina	Peso	0.267003	0.263852	13.3029
Brazil	Real	0.352347	0.348189	17.5550
Denmark	Kroner	0.134621	0.133032	6.7072
India	Rupee	0.020754	0.020509	1.0340
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.266336	0.263193	13.2697
Mexico	New Peso	0.101984	0.100781	5.0812
New Zealand	Dollar	0.495952	0.490100	24.7099
Norway	Kroner	0.135135	0.133540	6.7328
Pakistan	Rupee	0.016994	0.016793	0.8467
South Africa	Rand	0.097725	0.096572	4.8690
Sweden	Kroner	0.110035	0.108737	5.4823
Syria	Pound	0.019687	0.019455	0.9809
Taiwan	NT Dollar	0.030298	0.029940	1.5095
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000758	0.000749	0.0378

Legal issues . . .

From page B1

less both parties consent.

First Pacific, which still has to convince NTT to back up the deal, claimed that the shareholders' agreement merely covered the sale of the PLDT shares and not their transfer from First Pacific to Gokongwei. First Pacific said it would maintain its direct or indirect holdings in PLDT and the (Gokongwei) transaction should not violate the provision of the shareholders' agreement. The Pangilinan camp claimed it would be difficult for First Pacific to convince the courts that it was just transferring the shares to Gokongwei since it would get compensation for the shares.

Also, First Pacific said the rights of first offer were applicable as long as the shareholders' agreement was in effect among the parties. The Pangilinan source said this statement hinted of First Pacific's plan to terminate the agreement specially since NTT was not too keen on having Gokongwei as a partner.

First Pacific said the PLDT provision on qualification of directors did not ban Gokongwei from buying PLDT shares but merely prevented him from getting a seat on the board. First Pacific claimed that the by-laws allow competitors to seat on the board if the majority of directors approve the entry.

DTI readies more protection for cement firms

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry is ready to give the cement industry more protection from imports following the Court of Appeals' issuance of a preliminary injunction maintaining a provisional duty on cement imports.

Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas II said he was just awaiting a new petition by the Philippine Cement Manufacturers Corp. for tariff protection against cement imports.

"We cannot act until we know what Philcemcor wants," Roxas said.

"I am not unhappy with the CA decision. That is what we would have done had the Tariff Commission not ruled against us," Roxas said.

He said the appellate court's decision allowed the trade department to do anything it wanted under the Safeguard Measures Act, a two-year-old law that gave distressed industries relief from import surges.

Roxas slapped a provisional duty of P20.60 per 40-kilo bag on imported cement in December last year pending a review by the Tariff Commission of Philcemcor's petition for a punitive 50-percent duty and quota restrictions.

The Tariff Commission, however, made an adverse ruling in March, junking Philcemcor's claims that its financial losses and eroding market share were due to a surge in cement imports.

The trade department was forced to lift the provisional duty and reimburse the P86 million collected from cement importers.

Philcemcor, however, successfully obtained a temporary restraining order that stopped the trade department from lifting the provisional duty until its expiry yesterday.

The appellate court's injunction was more crucial to the industry, as it ordered the DTI and Tariff Commission to maintain the status quo to preserve the rights of and avoid irreparable injury to Philcemcor pending the resolution of the case.

Former Rep. Edcel C. Lagman claimed that the court order also compelled Roxas to issue an independent decision on Philcemcor's application for general safeguard measures under the Safeguard Measures Act consistent with his view that the Tariff Commission report was "baseless and erroneous."

Gov't credibility at stake in resins debate

THE ASSOCIATION of Petrochemical Manufacturers of the Philippines has warned that the government's credibility is at stake in the ongoing debate on the proposed hike in duties on resins.

APMP executive director Mario Jose Sereno said it was the government that encouraged the establishment of a petrochemical industry in the 1990s, and that it should not abandon investors who pumped in P50 billion over the last five years to build these huge production facilities.

Sereno said deserting the industry now would make it difficult for the government to attract capital-intensive projects to locate in the Philippines.

"The current plight of the industry should be viewed from the need to establish a strategic industry that would serve consumer interests, security of raw material and job creation," Sereno said.

The APMP has filed a petition with the Tariff Commission for an increase in tariffs on resins or polymers—base material for plastic products—from 15 to 30 percent up to 2010 or when a naphtha cracker is in place.

The higher tariff shield was meant to help the industry cope with the lingering effects of the Asian financial crisis and the Philippine economy's slow recovery.

During a hearing on Tuesday, Tariff Commission chair Edgardo Abon vowed to come up with a win-win situation that would serve the interests of both industry players and consumer groups who were concerned over the impact of higher tariffs on prices.

APMP cited a study by the University of Asia & Pacific that a doubling of duties on resins or polymers would lead to a negligible one-percent increase in plastic products.

For products whose main components are plastic, APMP said the cost impact would range from 2 to 5 percent.

Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

Jollibee sets expansion in mainland China

By Doris C. Dumlao

LOCAL fast-food giant Jollibee Foods Corp. is set on making inroads into mainland China, company chair Tony Tan Caktiong said yesterday.

In a news briefing after a stockholders' meeting, Caktiong said Jollibee would press ahead with its bid to penetrate new markets, albeit on a slower scale compared with earlier plans.

He said Jollibee was set on bringing its flagship brand, Jollibee, and Chinese fast-food marquee Chowking to China, initially in southern areas such as Shanghai.

"These are the progressive areas of China," Caktiong explained, noting that China's 1.2-billion-strong population presented a great opportunity for Jollibee.

Although Jollibee's offshore expansion has been mostly focused on areas with large Filipino communities like California and Hong Kong, Caktiong has expressed confidence that Jollibee's products will sell well in mainland China.

"Our products taste better, and we have a better mascot!" Caktiong said.

Caktiong estimated that each new store in China would cost about $500,000 to put up.

"But these might not be for this year. We'll need one to two years to set it up," Caktiong said.

Asked whether Jollibee would put up the business in China on its own or with partners, Caktiong replied that the company was keeping its options open, noting that some groups had already expressed interest to enter into partnerships.

Caktiong also said Jollibee planned to put up more stores in California. The US state is currently Jollibee's largest overseas market, with eight stores in operation.

Jollibee is currently the undisputed leader in the local fast-food business, with 826 local and 28 international stores, making the Philippines the only country in the world where American fast-food giant McDonald's does not rank No. 1 in the quick-service restaurant industry.

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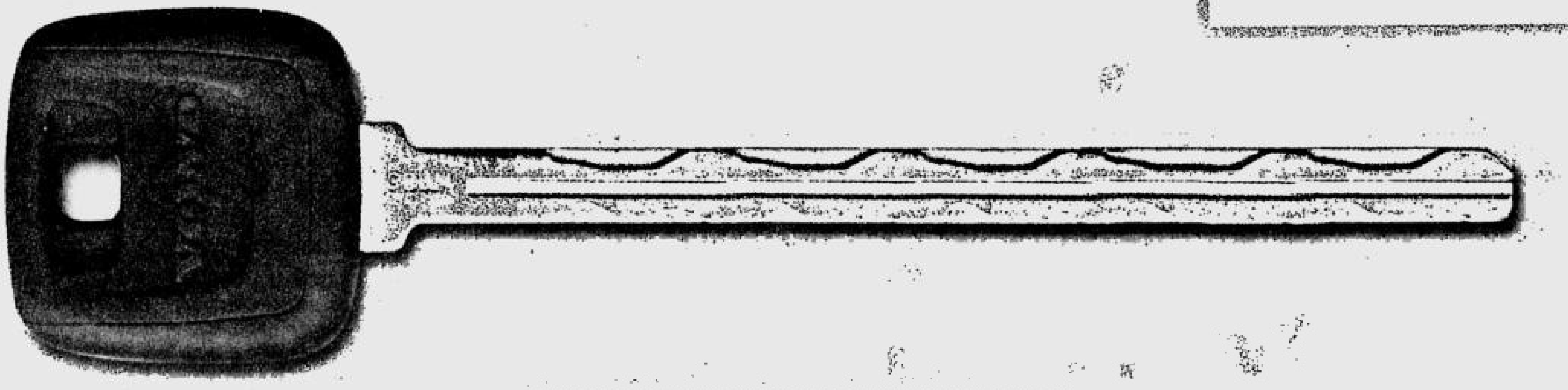
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S60	P2,195,000	20%	439,000	152,290	104,648	81,676	58,012	46,289	40,669
S60 T5	P2,595,000	20%	519,000	180,855	124,272	96,993	68,895	54,971	48,299
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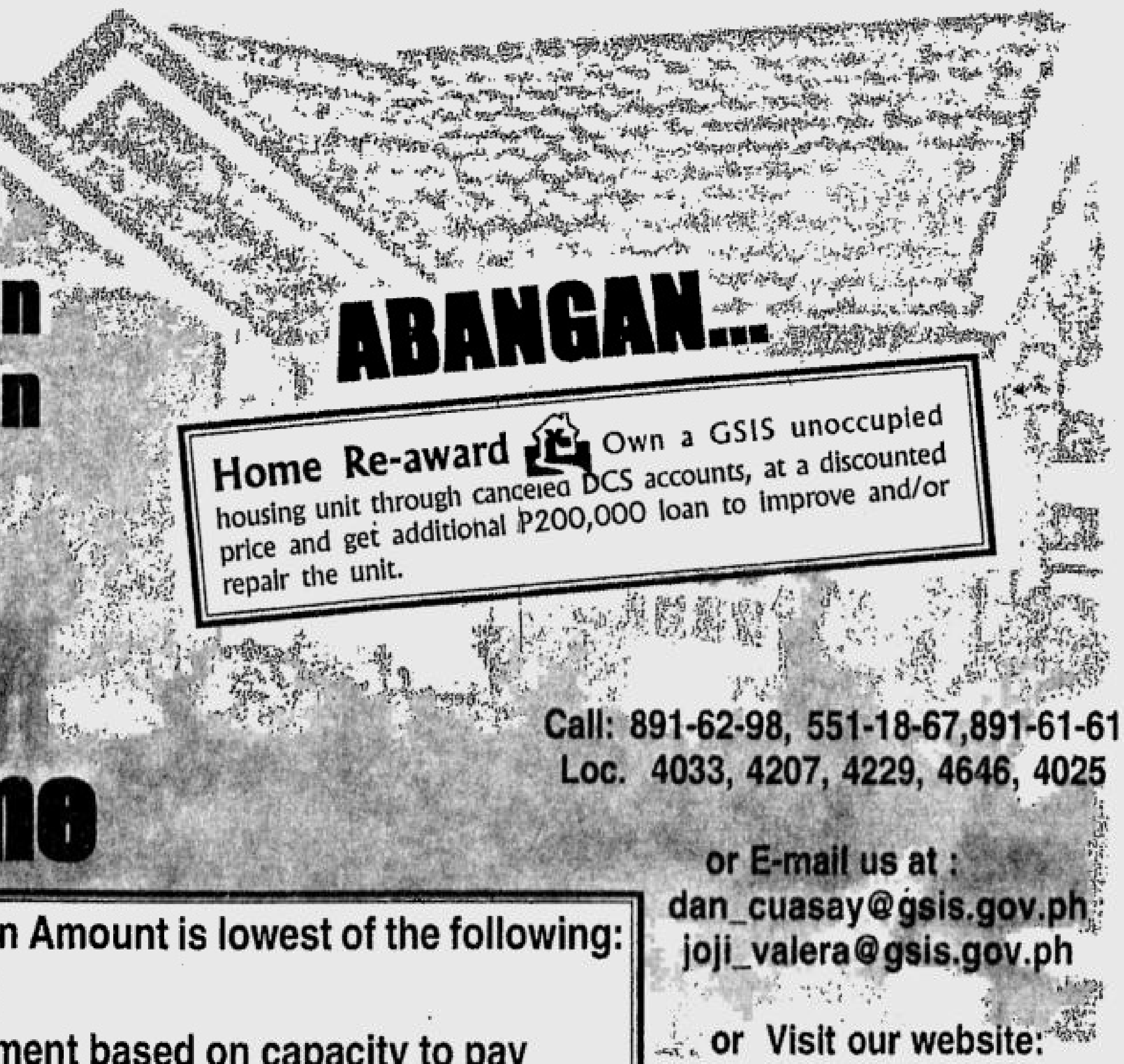

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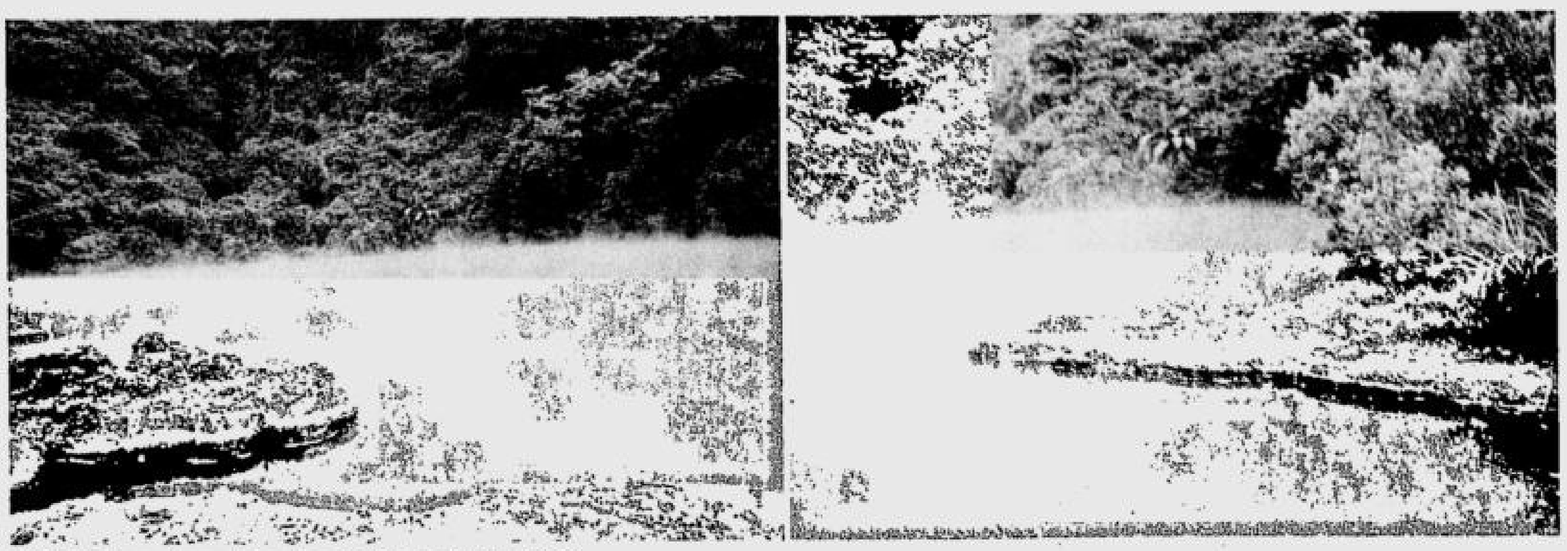


STEAM rises from Nag-Aso Boiling Lake in Albay.

Saving the generators of power and life

Text and photos
by Tessa R. Salazar

AS OF 1990, there were 57 known lakes in the country, inland bodies of water fed by rivers and tributaries. A number of these lakes are currently being used to generate power.

But these lakes are under the threat of soil erosion and water pollution. There is also the problem of deforestation from rampant illegal logging and tree cutting for firewood, charcoal and handicraft.

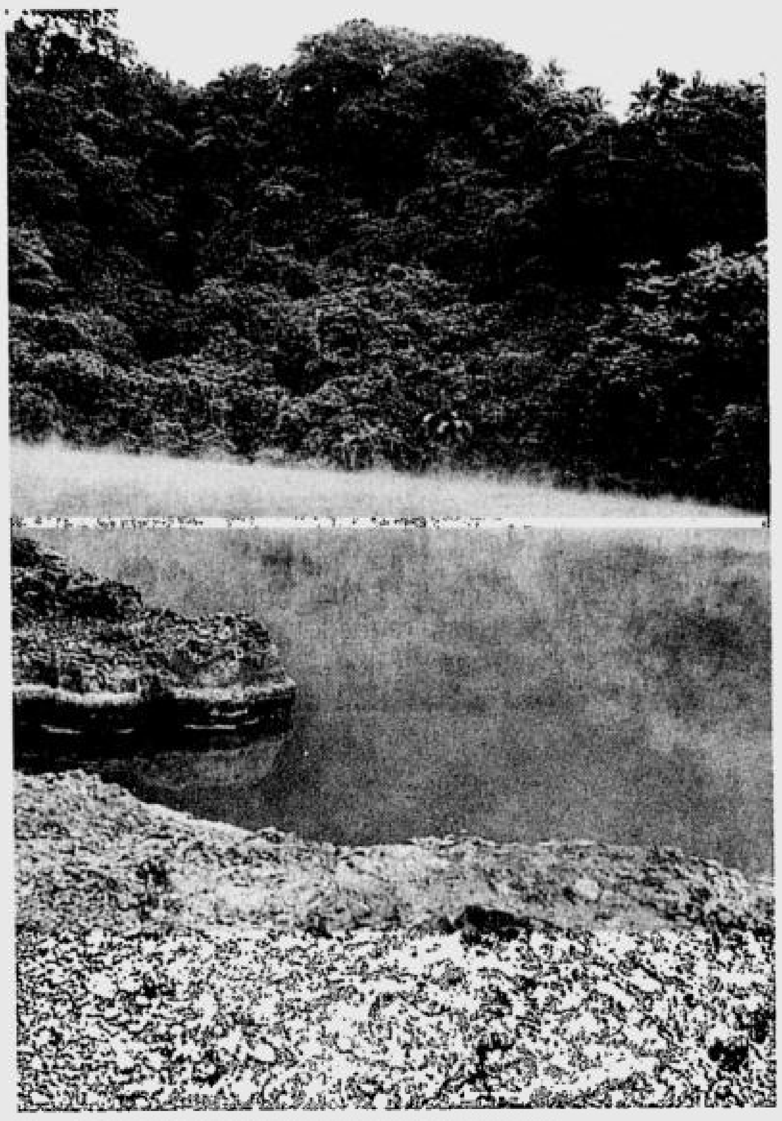
Filipino conservationists have also raised concerns about wildlife hunting, diminished biodiversity, as well as illegal harvesting of non-timber products such as rattan, bamboo, orchids and ferns.

The INQUIRER recently visited two lakes: the Nag-Aso Boiling Lake in Albay province and the Lumot Lake watershed in Cavinti, Laguna.

At first glance, these two lakes are sharply contrasting. But they share the same problems.

Residents have observed a large amount of logging and *kaingin* (burning of trees) around the lakes.

To protect the thermal lake from the constant threat of *kaingiñeros*, people in Barangay Nag-Aso coordinate with the local government unit, the Protected Area Management Board and the Department of Tourism.



The lake is hot enough to boil eggs in minutes.

Therapeutic lake

The Nag-Aso Boiling Lake is hot enough to boil eggs in just minutes, and is said to be frequented by those who suffer from asthma, rheumatism and skin diseases. Townsfolk believe the lake has therapeutic effects because of its steam and sulfuric content.

The small lake is surrounded by thick vegetation. The silence is eerie, especially when steam envelops one's vision and bubbles intermittently surface from the lake's bottom. A scene from "Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring" comes to mind.

Located 50 km from Legaspi City, Nag-Aso Boiling Lake is right beside a ridge, nestled on wide unexploited hectares of rugged land beside the Albay Sea. At the background is the Mayon Volcano. It is 15 km from the Manito town proper.

Nag-Aso, which comes from the Bicolano word for "steaming," is an ideal lake for a geothermal power plant, according to local officials of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

It currently powers a 160-megawatt geothermal plant on the border of Manito and Bacon, Sorsogon.

Purchase plan

DOT regional officer Ping Arcilla said the government is planning to buy three hectares of land around the lake to preserve not just the boiling lake but the trees and the animals that live around it as well. The lake, together with the land surrounding it, is at present privately owned.

Russel Daep, executive assistant to the Manito mayor, confirmed the government's plans. He estimated the value of Nag-Aso land at P135/sq.m.

Trees around Nag-Aso, like narra and balete, have adapted to the temperatures of the lake. These trees also serve as nests for owls, the Philippine maya, palago (a maya-like bird) and kingfishers.

The barangay council of Nag-Aso guards the areas around the boiling lake from *kaingiñeros* and those who dump garbage. It has also issued precautions to visitors after one accidentally fell into the lake and had to be treated for third degree burns recently.

Seeing its potential for eco-tourism, the DOT regional office has allotted P5 million for the development of the lake.

Laguna watershed

In Laguna, the Lumot watershed and the bigger Caliraya watershed are the sources of the Pagsanjan-Lumban river system, the biggest tributary of the Laguna de Bay.

The lake, the largest source of water for communities south of Manila, was recently included in the prestigious global "Living Lakes Network."

The National Power Corp. has been tasked to manage, protect, conserve and develop the Caliraya-Lumot watershed. The two-year-old CBK Power Co. Limited is supposed to rehabilitate all existing plants, as well as repair and upgrade old inefficient plants.

To further protect the watersheds, CBK recently commissioned a study on the social needs of the communities.

"We believe in saving the watersheds. There are indicators that the watersheds are indeed in a very critical stage as indicated in the erosion maps," said Humbelina M. Castro, CBK vice president for environment and community relations.

The Caliraya-Lumot watershed is also the forest reserve of the Caliraya Lake hydroelectric plant, which provides electricity to the Luzon power grid.

Aside from rampant illegal logging and wildlife hunting, another problem of the Caliraya-Lumot watershed is the illegal settlement of migrants from Bicol and Quezon.

This has prompted the Caliraya-Lumot Lake Conservation Society to come up with a campaign to educate the public, barangay officials and residents on the importance of the watershed.

"The trees protect the watershed while the roots hold the soil together to stop it from eroding. The trees are the major source of oxygen and help cool the environment. But what took 50 years to grow takes only a few minutes to cut," lamented Peter Wallace, CLCS president.

Several preservation efforts are under way for the watershed, including alternative livelihood for forest dwellers, reforestation, land use zoning, integrated and sustainable multiple-use management, and stabilization of slopes to prevent erosion.

Science celebration: papers and sessions

(*Second of four parts*)

EUREKA!

Queena N. Lee-Chua

LAST week we looked at some excellent science books and monographs. On July 11, the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) will also recognize these nine outstanding papers:

- "Efficacy of Transgenic Corn Expressing the *Bacillus thuringiensis cryIA(b)* Gene Against Asiatic Corn Borer, *Ostrinia furnacalis* (Guenee)," Philippine Entomologist (1997), by Eduardo C. Fernandez, Samuel C. Dalmacio and Randy A. Hautea.
- "Rheological Properties of Mango (*Mangifera India L.*) Fruits in Relation to Handling and Transport," Philippine Agricultural Scientist (2001), by Ritchilda F. Valerio, Engelbert K. Peralta and Elda B. Esguerra.
- "Identification of Rambutan (*Nephelium lappaceum Linn.*) Cultivars Using Isozyme Electrophoretic Pattern," Philippine Journal of Crop Science (1998), by Amy Emiliana N. Bernardo, Roberta N. Garcia and Evelyn Mae T. Mendoza.
- "Diagnostic Primers for Detection of *Xanthomonas oryze pv. Oryzicola*," Philippine Agricultural Scientist (2001), by Maria Theresa M. Perez, Asuncio K. Raymundo, Reynaldo V. Ebora and Jan E. Leach.
- "Gamma Ray Induction of Translocation in the Corn Earworm, *Helicoverpa armigera (Hubner)*, (*Lepidoptera: Noctuidae*)," Philippine Entomologist (1997), by Archie P. Bella, Grace L. Jerusalem, Adelina A. Barrion, Virginia R. Ocampo and Josephine B. de Leon.
- "Unique Continuation for Oscillatory Integrals," Matimyas Matematika (1998), by Noli M. Reyes.
- "Purification and Characterization of a Delta-Endotoxin Active Against Lepidoptera from a Philippine Isolate of *Bacillus thuringiensis subsp. Kurstaki*," Philippine Journal of Biotechnology (1999), by Maria-Sol P. Hidalgo, Amy Emiliana N. Bernardo, Antonio C. Laurean and Evelyn Mae T. Mendoza.
- "Differential Effects of Mathematical Ability and Language Use on Computational and Conceptual Knowledge of Descriptive Statistics," Asia-Pacific Education Researcher (2000), by Melissa L. Reyes.
- "Factorial n-Cubes: A New Hierarchical Network Topology," Matimyas Matematika (2001), by Felix P. Muga II, Michael Palis and David S. L. Wei.

Young scientists

Oville L. Bondoc and Gabriel G. Romero will receive the TWAS Awards for Young Scientists for their research in animal breeding and genetics, respectively.

The DuPont Talent Search for Young Scientists awardees are (in order): Jose Ernie C. Lope (mathematics), John C. De Leon (agricultural sciences- bioprocess engineering), Constancio D. Asis Jr. (soil microbiology) and Gaudencia M. Anober (entomology).

Congratulations to all the awardees, especially to my colleague Dr. Felix Muga II.

The 24th annual scientific meeting of the NAST will have as its theme "Enhancing Philippine Science and Technology through Information and Communication Technology (ICT)." During the plenary sessions, director Martin G. Curley of People, Intellectual Capital and Solutions of Intel Corp. will give an overview of the theme. Bro. Michael Rapatan of the Department of Communications of De La Salle University will focus on ICT in education and Academician Ceferino L. Follosco, chair of the board of Alpha Machineries, will expound on "Meeting Global Competitions: Clustering from Research to Market."

Academician Evelyn Mae T. Mendoza, head of the Biotechnology Laboratory at the Institute of Plant Breeding, and Ida F. Dalmacio, executive director of the Philippine Council for Advanced Science and Technology Research and Development, will conclude with "Making Philippine Biotechnology Competitive."

Technical sessions

There will be technical sessions for six different divisions on July 11. For agriculture these are "Compatibility of GMOs with Sustainable Agriculture" (Eliseo Ponce), "Biology of Prions" (Flerida Carno) and "Prion Diseases in Animals" (Salcedo Eduardo). For the biological sciences, these are "Stem Cell Research" (Mariluz Mojica-Henshaw) and "Bioterrorism" (Juan Pablo Nañagas). For chemical, mathematical and physical sciences, these are "The Status of Parallel Computation in the Philippines (Rafael Saldaña), "Bioinformatics from the Computational Point of View" (John Paul Vergara), "Computation, Bioionformatics and the Human Genome" (Richard Bruskiewich) and "Perspective on Interconnection Networks in the Philippines" (Dennis Villorente). For engineering sciences and technology, the session is "ICT Roadmap in Engineering" (Romeo Solis, William Torres and Reynaldo Vea). For health sciences these are "Standards for Health Information in the Philippines" (Alvin Marcelo), "Protecting Health Data" (Inocencio Daniel Maramba) and "Updates on Telemedicine" (Ayedee Ace Domingo). For social sciences these are "Participatory Research: Does It Make a Difference?" (Dindo Campilan), "The Use of Wealth Rank as an Explanatory Variable in a Model of Cultivation Decision" (Lorna E. Sister), "The Evolution of Social Capital and Civic Entrepreneurship under CARP (Agnes Rola and Merlyn Paunlagui) and "A Typology of Peasants in Mindanao" (Antonio Ledesma).

From July 3 to 5, simultaneous technical sessions will be conducted in Manila, Cebu and Davao. How? For the first time in NAST scientific meetings, teleconferencing will link participants in the Case Room of RCBC Plaza in Makati, the AV Room of the Engineering building at the University of San Carlos in Cebu, and the AV Room of the Ateneo de Davao University.

Almost all of the technical sessions are the same as those listed above, with the exception of those in the social sciences. On July 5, the themes will be "Experience of Open University in Distance Learning (Felix Librero), "Filipiniana On Line" (Prescilina Legasto) and "SEI Experience in IT Education" (Ester Ogena).

The case of the drunk star

MEDICAL FILES

By Rafael Castillo, MD

UPON HEARING that her new movie was a dismal flop again, movie actress Larissa O. (not her real name) found herself deeply depressed. It was apparent she could not bank on her former glory. There was no longer any doubt that she has lost her charisma and appeal to the Filipino moviegoers. Or perhaps, it was a clear sign that her more than two decades of colorful career is now on its twilight years.

Down and feeling out, Larissa locked herself in her room and drank a good part of a bottle of her favorite brandy to console her. It has been five years now since she started her propensity for alcoholic drinks and she liberally resorted to it every time she felt that her world was crumbling down. For her, alcohol gave the needed boost, and dulled her senses and memory to forget all the raw deals she got in life—a mirthless marital relationship, a declining career and an imminent shattered existence.

Craving for alcohol

What started as one to two drinks of brandy daily—just enough to relax her before retiring at night—quickly became several and too many to count. Her craving for alcohol, despite her awareness that her drinking was creating problems in her life, has now become uncontrollable, and her health, like her embattled career, was also slipping down.

Alcoholics, like Larissa, develop a greater tolerance for alcohol—that is, they need to drink increasing amounts of alcohol to reach their intoxication level. By estimate, according to the World Health Organization, 62 million people worldwide suffer from alcohol dependence.

Alcoholism is categorized as a chronic disease marked by an uncontrollable craving for alcohol. Health experts characterize alcohol-use disorders as a form of illness so widespread that it constitutes a major public health problem. According to WHO, alcohol dependence and other alcohol-use disorders undermine global health, accounting for 3.5 percent of the total cases of disease worldwide.

This figure equals the hazards posed by unsafe sex and it even surpasses two other formidable health foes—tobacco and illicit drugs. In the United States alone, it is estimated that alcoholism causes losses of more than $185 billion a year in lost productivity, illness and premature death.

Coping mechanism

For Larissa, and for other alcoholics, drinking becomes a coping mechanism to solve problems. They develop a psychological condition known as denial where they fail to acknowledge that alcohol use is the root cause of their problems. Despite numerous negative consequences experienced as a result of their drinking, they remain in denial about their problem. In the process, their productivity at work declines, which often result in job loss.

Soon, movie offers and TV guestings became scarcer for Larissa. Directors and her co-workers were complaining about her unprofessionalism and excessive drinking even during location shoots. There was even one incident when the crew had to pack up because Larissa was flat on her back after drinking excessively, and no amount of prodding could wake her up.

Ironically, her misfortune provoked Larissa to drink even more. She started spending two or three days drinking, sleeping it off, and forgetting all her commitments. Her alcoholic addiction became progressively worse making her paranoid about everything and everyone, including her own family. It reached a point that her husband and her kids had nothing much of a choice but to leave their house.

Larissa
JED E.

ILLUSTRATION: JED ESTRADA

Rehabilitation

One night, intoxicated as usual, she featured in a vehicular accident. Larissa miraculously survived the accident. She finally came to her senses and she agreed to be admitted to a rehabilitation center in Makati for 12 weeks of intensive rehabilitation.

The first few weeks of rehabilitation became an agony for Larissa. She underwent detoxification and support for the expected withdrawal symptoms, such as delirium tremens. This condition produces increased confusion, sleeplessness, depression and terrifying hallucinations. As the delirium progresses, the hands develop a persistent and uncontrollable shaking which may extend to the head and body;

Larissa underwent intensive psychotherapy to make her understand the root cause of her problems, so she'll be in better position to deal with them. Family support is also critical and Larissa is fortunate to have the unstinting support of her husband and children.

Her physician also prescribed an antidepressant (Stablon) which significantly reduced her fits of depression. In some rehab centers, medications such as naltrexone may also be prescribed to help prevent alcoholics from returning to drinking. This medication interferes with the way the body processes alcohol. Although scientists are not certain how this medication works in the brain, this medication reduces an alcoholic's craving for alcohol by blocking the positive effects the individual gets from drinking. Naltrexone is most effective when it is used in combination with counseling programs.

After Larissa became stable, she continued to receive follow-up treatment and counseling that ensured her abstinence from alcohol. She was subjected to a period of in-patient alcohol rehabilitation followed by subsequent long-term participation in support groups that helped her to control her alcoholic urge.

Looking back, a much sober Larissa regrets the time, money and career she wasted during her wild and foolish days with alcohol. She has gone back to the Lord, too, and this has given her the faith and courage to face all her challenges in life, in a sober and much better way than alcohol has taught her.

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BF Homes, Parañaque City
HOMES FOR SALE
TWO-STOREY 3-4 BR / 2 T&B
Maids Rm w/toilet/2 CARS

ADDEE	- 843-0671	ROSE	- 842-0823
CHE	- 806-0731	LINO	- 0916-3647355
TINA	- 825-0042	BABY	- 801-5584

OPEN HOUSE JUNE 22 – JULY 7!
BF CITI REALTY MARKETING CORPORATION
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COMML/RESDL

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25%OFF
ON TITLED RESD'L. LOTS CASH SALE - MARCOS H - WAY ANTIPOLO NEAR CUBAO, GREEN HILLS EASTWOOD CITY LIBIS

FOREST HILLS
(KINGS TITLED PROPERTIES)
RESIDENTIAL ESTATES & GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

- ONE (1) YEAR ZERO INTEREST
- 10%OFF ON COMM'L LOTS
- RDY 4 HOUSING, LIVE COMFTY
- PLAYABLE WORLD-CLASS GOLF COURSE BY JACK NICKLAUS
- 25 METER GRAND ENTRANCE
- W / IN THE COMM'L BUSINESS DISTRICT OF ANTIPOLO CITY

ASIAN PACIFIC
GROUP OF COMPANIES
911-2240 • 677-3354
www. apgc.com.ph

LOT

LAS PINAS

Gloria Diaz St. BF Resort 312m² Via 5634029 7522180

MAKATI

Zapote nr J.P.Rizal 246m² P28T 5646593 5633742 09178473744

MARIKINA

250m² 350T 6272946 Minda

MUNTINLUPA

PLEASANT VILL w/proposed rd direct to FILINVEST ALABANG 477m² P4,500/m² SOUTH GREEN-HEIGHTS VILL 300m² P1.15M Vic 8903461 loc. 27

PARANAQUE

Vacant Lot 120m² up 8239255

QUEZON CITY

★ FERNDALE QC ★
Ayala Res Lots New Phase 204-290m² @ P9,500-P12,160 Pay 20%(In 2 months) Bal 5 yrs. Mo. Interest HSES & LOTS - 3BR 3TB 150 - 300 FA 200-300 LA @ P6M P13M 2 yrs - 10 yrs Term w/ Complete Facilities 9319117 ★ 9319160 T.Banez

LOYOLA GRAND VILLAS CHOICE LOTS with VIEW 929-1832 • 426-5650

PROVINCIAL

Binakayan Fishpond 1 Hec. Along Bypass Road Near Island Cove Resort Cell 0917-6948058

FOR SALE
Five(5) hectare property with clean individual titles, 90% developed, 10 meter-wide roads, along DRT Highway, Baliuag, Bulacan; Complete with nice entrance gate, perimeter fence and ready for sale with HLURB, ECC permit, etc. P65 M only, call 875-3759; 875-4553 to 60 local 119 - Rosie; 044-766-5114 - Raquel. Only Direct Buyers will be entertained.

LIPA CITY 7has@P100/m² w/coco trees 801-6251

TAAL Bings 200m from Diversion Rd LA6794m² P1.4M Vic 8903461 loc. 27

Tagaytay 1174 & 496 sqm infront Mahogany Market Cell 0917-6948058

Tagaytay Southridge I Near Clubhaus 240sqm Tel. 6413812 • 641-3486

Tagaytay Southridge I Near Clubhaus 240sqm Tel. 6413812 • 641-3486

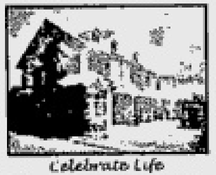
REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

PARANAQUE

QUEZON CITY

JUBILEE VILLAS



Celebrate Life
Create Happy Memories
Newly constructed top-quality units.
3-BR w/2 T&B, Attic, maid's room laundry area. 2-car garage customized interior colors, excellent amenities, prime location
GFA 110 - 135 SQM.
INDIVIDUAL LOT TITLE
PHASE 1 SOLD OUT
CONSTRUCTION ON-GOING FOR PHASES 2 - 3
2 UNITS READY FOR OCCUPANCY
RESERVE NOW
PRICES START AT 3.1 M
EASY PAYMENT TERMS
BANK FINANCING AVLBLE
VISIT US TODAY AND VIEW OUR MODEL UNIT
90 BANLAT ROAD, TANDANG SORA, QC
FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL
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Tels 7515472, 8182781
www.jubileevillas.com
Email: jubvilla@info.com.ph
HLURB License #04012

LOT

MAKATI

PROPERTY FOR SALE
Lot - 355 sq.m.
House - 53.25 sq.m.
Address - 3824 Mascardo St. Tejeros, Makati City
Contact person
Nita del Rosario
Tel. 897-8808 loc. 229

OTHER AREAS

TOWN&COUNTRY Southville 209m² P680T Vic 8903461L.27

CONDO/TWNHSE/ APT

LAS PINAS

Better Living 3BR 3TB Maids Rm 200sqm P4.5 0920-2538723 0916-4747982

BF Resort 3BR 2TB FA 90 sqm P1.6 0920-2538723 / 0916-4747982

MAKATI

C5 Nr The Fort 988T
10T/mo. or 3Yrs No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD!
Ven • 0917-8169849

Eclusive Condo Units Ready For Occupancy!!! 15 mins 2 Mkt & Ortigas 4 Only P15,203.98/mo. Call: Ivy 0919-5558628

Skyland Condo Makati Bltful 3br FF w/Parking P5.8M or Rent P42T 533-9716 / 633-6428

MANDALUYONG

2Flr / 2BR Condo 57.5sqm 500T Assume Bal. 535-7567

Mandaluyong Condo 744T EZ Pymt Term 534-6610 Jojo

PASIG

Alexandra / Reinassance 3br 4tb P9.5 - 16M Sale P45-90T Rent 633-7601/03

Alexandra Condo 216m² Bltful FF 3br w/ 2 Parking Slot For Rent 85T For Sale P12M 533-9716 / 633-6428

CRISANTA TOWER NR ULTRA 2BR 2TB 1PRKNG 634-1212

GREENPARK 2sty 4BR/3TB w/car grge P100th only Call 722-2484/721-7015

LA 88 FA 200 3BR 4TB 2 CAR KAPITOLYO CALL 634-1212

SKYWAY TT Nr. Valleverdo 5yrs 0%Int. 671-2049 / 9651

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE/ APT

CONDOMINIUM
For Lease or Sale
(Chateau de Baie)
149 Roxas Blvd. corner Airport Road, Parañaque City

- (1) Condo. Unit (1708)
- (2) Bed Room
- Fully Furnished
- Area: 145.10 sq.m.
- Parking Slot #: 3rd Basement Level, Slot # 17 (12.50 sq.m.)

(for inquiries, pls. call: Marie)
(046) 4371714-17

HOUSE & LOT

COASTAL
WOODS VILLAGE
Ligas, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP: P 25,000

CASIMIRO
TOWNHOMES
Habay, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP: P 15,000

VILLA FELIZA
HOMES
Alabang Zapote Rd., Las Piñas City
Initial DP: P 25,000

FORTE REALTY

829-5081	872-7603
810-8019	871-8318
810-7183	520-0108
815-2144	776-4604

961-7521
Welcome Brokers & Agents
visit us at
www.forterealty.com

CONDO/TWNHSE/ APT

PASIG

TH East Manor 3BR 2TB Pkg 2.8M 895-7291 0916-3776876

QUEZON CITY

BURGUNDY Rent / Sale 2BR Ataneo FFurn 09175382463

Owner Leaving New Twnhse before T.Sora 4M-Now 3.7M Call 644-8410 ; 935-6080

Rush Landsdale 45.34sqm FFurnish P2M 09202201489

UNION SQ ONE FA80m² P1.9M 1BR 2T&B Vic 8903461 loc. 27

SAN JUAN

G'HILLS 1 BR 526-8048

MEMORIAL LOT

MEMORIAL VAULTS for the cremated ashes of departed loved ones. VISAYAS AVE. QC only 2,687DP; 632/mo. For more info 728-8049 Lyn

RESORT

BEACH LOT FOR SALE
1,260m² white beach lot located at Bo. Bantigue, Pagbilao, Quezon, 2-3 hrs. drive fr. Manila, back, concreted road, nat'l. hi-way, with Moralco & H2O (Lupata) Contact EVELYN at 658-8581 to 83 Monday to Friday for details

ZAMBALES AREAS
Call 0919-3279260

CLUB SHARE & MEMBERSHIP

Buying/Selling GOLFSHARES 753-1843to45;840-0324/0358

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

MANILA

Apt 7041746/6682108

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE/ APT

QUEZON CITY

FURNISHED & UNFURNISHED

ONE BEATRIZ TOWER
1st Class COMM'L-OFFICE RES'L CONDO.
B-4 BUYING / INVESTING
COMPARE & CONSIDER:
1. 1st CLASS AMENITIES
NAME IT... WE HAVE IT!!!
2. ACCESSIBILITY - SCHOOLS (Ateneo, UP, Miriam, Kolska, PSBA, NCBA), BANKS, Other Bus. Establishments & TRANSPO to any part of M. Mla.
3. X'lent VIEW (360°) of the Metropolis w/ roof - top S. POOL & Garden
4. WHY BUY IF NOT FINISHED
BUY & TRANSFER NOW!
SEE... IS TO BELIEVE!!!
FOR BUSY INVESTORS/BUSINESS MEN WE ARE OPEN UNTIL 9:00 p.m.
FEW UNITS LEFT
MASTER C RE-DE, INC.
TEL# 922-4469/921-4883
433-7668/433-8842

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

MANDALUYONG

845 Samat St.,
Mand. City • 533-7709 to 12

QUEZON CITY

91-8th Ave Cubao studio type 2persons no kid 9132527 P6T

Nr SM City Edsa 2BR U&D w/ Prkg 80C Pangasinan T-9263934 CP# 0917-4796789 • P6,500/mo.

•P5.5T Studio T-9267419

New Studio 8156172/8173722

SFDM 1&2br 10Tmo 3725866

Studio or 2Bedrms Clean #17 Road 14 Project 8 QuezonCity

HOUSE

MAKATI

3BR 2TB 1228 Cardona,Rizal Vill 8958580

SANLO DUPLEX 5268048

QUEZON CITY

Acropolis / Crnthian / Valle 4-6br 60-120T 633-7601/03

RIZAL

2 STRY HSE 3 BR 2 TB FF MORONG RIZAL CALL:FLO 656-0815

PROVINCIAL

Bacoor Cavite 2Sty Res/ Ofc Nr RFC / Banks 939-3945

Laguna BelAir Sale/Rent 049-5410459 • 0917-8128700

OTHER AREAS

BET LVG POE 4BR 3TB TEL 2GRG 18T/MO 09177948571

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

Mkt 2BR P10.5up Studio P8.5up FreePrkg H2O Tel/Secu 8979417

new studio/2BR/clinic/com'l P9T up • no association dues 1672 Dian St., Mktl. nr Buendia. Korean nationality is welcome!!! LOOKING 4 KOREAN BROKER Call Rose 843-9418 or 536-9509

PARANAQUE

3Bdr 3TB Patio 1CG Mds Qtr Nico Garden 15T Contact: 8215180 Juaning

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

PASAY

1BR fulfurnishd near Harrison Plaza/DLSU Somerset 526-0054

PASIG

CTL8 1BR PF P10T 929-9835

Emerald Condo Ortigas 2BR Furnished • 633-0164

SAN JUAN

Grnhills Stud P12T 929-9835

VARIOUS AREAS

Rockwell Amorsolo Hidalgo 2BR, Eastwood, Libis 1BR Julius 628-1580 • 0917-2011825

FOR LEASE

124 sqm 2F DAO I BLDG 189 SALCEDO ST, LEGASPI VILL,MKTI-8140615 (EDITH)

200m²-3000m² Covered Whse Located at Las Pinas. Evelyn 8725253/8733993

53 GOV PASCUAL WHSE 3610652

ROOM & BOARD

New Ladies Dorm Nr UST Class"A" Tel.6451185/6810992

Nr SM CT a/c new 9271821

BEDSPACE

Mkt nr Ayala M/F Prkg 8906331

nr DLSU w/food P6.5T 8992148

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% w/o TAKING CAR 3677523/24

Car Sangla While-U-Wait
30 Mins. Cash / No Gimmick!
9241254 • 9264160 • 9259121

FINANCING-EASY FAST VERY PRIVATE CONVENIENT H/L Business Personal Gigie/Ernie 8903461 loc. 25/23

BUSINESS RENTAL

524 EDSA KALOOKAN 3610652

71sqm off Herrera St Salcedo Vil Mkt P19T/mo Tel 8243550/8941816 ROY

GUD BUS / OFFICE KAPITOLYO FA 125 SQM CALL 634-1212

MAKATI nr BUENDIA
Plamo 38/85/62/185m² 1st class 8903461 loc 34 or 19 ofc hrs

MALATE office 150m² 8992148

MKTI ofc/clinic 8439418 Rose

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

BMW

BMW 318i 2000 model P1.5M Yellow Neg 0918-5253227

HYUNDAI

94Grace 150T, 97 H100 230T 2001 Starex 690T, all power A1 Cond,LTO reg'n, financing ok! 731-7984 / 731-6550

KIA

97Besta 160T, 98Pregio 300T, 97-98Asia Topic 245T, all power A1 Cond, LTO reg'n,financing ok! 731-7984 / 731-6550

VOLVO

98 S40 Volvo 1st Own 36TH KM 5 Speed Tel. 0917-8111189

OTHER CAR BRANDS

Safari Pajero Mu Prado Hi-Town Ace Terrano Surf Delica 9132224 / 4361161

'79 TwnAce 55T 09175403845

BUSES/TRUCKS

ELF-SITEC AC DC 4WHEEL 4HF1 ENG 195T 656-2060

Light & Heavy Recon Trucks 30%DP;14%int.1yearT776-4287•787-6305•0917-3318471

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

HEAVY EQUIPMENT/ TRANSPORT

PISON/GCutter/GenSet/Weld Mach 3610215 3672002

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

L3•Cars• 9273453 4538295

Starex MB100
Coaster Bus
Call 631-3496 • 637-7396

ABC-CARS & VANS
Starex, Urvan, REVO, L300, HIAce, MB100, Altis, Honda, Cefiro, Lancer, Corolla, Lynx, Corona, Exalta, Mazda, Sentra
Manila H.O. 5368822/3039789
Q.C. Br. 4251391 9262314

BRDAL MB VANS 9296250

CAR VANS 410-0495

Vans Coaster Bus 913-9123

HI ACE VANS 8252988

JB CARS
Promo Rates #536-2048 526-6288/808-1632

L300/Vans 578-8917 (Roger)

MARIAN CARS BRIDAL VANS CSTER 8957247/8969956

P800/L3 9136710/4333682

Revo w/ driver #9272821

Toyco Self Drive Carvan Coaster Rental •800-6595•

BNew Van 8254058 8261045

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CARS 8990215

CAR LOAN

1.5 % EasyCarLoan 4000166 -67

1.5% FAST CAR LOAN 3677523/24

2% w/o Taking Car 8966633

2% w/o Taking Car 7228942/43

2% w/o taking car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 3732083

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

FURNITURE

Ivory Crucifix, Jars, old furnitures Tel. 437-4634

P45Tup Kawai Yamaha 0/B No Int. 6mos. Pay 9240834

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT ELITE PIANO CENTER Almost New Models 7213124

PETS

Collie Pups • Tel.# 645-8344

DOG TRAINER 09192050952

DOG TRAINER 4528681

G.RET PUPS 09185221929

PHIL. DOG SCHOOL
LICENSED BY THE GOVT.
TEL. 721-3736

Shih-Tzu Pups 812-3216

SPORTING GOODS

BILLIARDS P30/33/36/38T A1 Qlty B.New 8014494/8020566

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

SPORTING GOODS

GYM EQUIPMENT FOR SALE For Inquiries Alvin Sta Ana 643-7023

RUSH! GOLF COMPLETE SET 4 LADIES P20T 0917-2429078

WANTED TO BUY

ANY ROLEX
Buy / Sell / Pawn / Repair
Tel# 804-0484 • 834-2886

BUYING ROLEX
others, High Price CASH 09178142309/7269687/4123543

Buy/Pawn Diamonds T834-2886

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
5633742 5646593 09178473744

MISCELLANEOUS

B/SELL EDUC'L PLAN 8061574

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GOLD
HIGHEST PRICE
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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

4 Aircon Tech / 6 Helper Tristar Ref. Call 4287736

FEMALE

3 FEMALE ACCTG BKPR 21-28 KOA & ASSOCIATES TEL 2520096 2553083

NURSES/MWIFE
Grad/Undergrad/Underboard WCT OFFICE, 2600 Legarda, Sampaloc, Mla. Good Pay-4 hrs. work

Wnted LAVANDERA 9266372

MALE/FEMALE

*Ofc Staff 18-45y/o w/w/oexp Start asap 9134470 EDEN

*Ofc Staff 18-45y/o w/w/oexp Start asap 9134470 Zobel

ARCH'L & ENG'G Firm needs
1) PROJ ENGR/ESTIMATOR
2) AUTOCADD OPERATOR /ESTIMATOR w/at least 2 years experience in Design & Construction, Male/Female preferably w/3D rendering knowledge. Send resume to MCPO 3550

DENTISTS 9162923

ENG TCHR Call WTC 8290978 or 0919-8991040

English Japanese Chinese Teacher 9264650

FREE CARE GIVER SEMINAR 561-4990 563-8009

HRD Staff 09197572274 Mike

LAW FIRM NEEDS
3 PARA LEGALS
Tel. 5264328; 5236046

Ofc Staff 09176163680 ECHO

OFC STAFF 9134470 Ms Coco

Tindera M/F • 687-4298

URGENT! Ofc Staff 18-35y/o w/w/o exp 9134470 Mylene

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

P.O. Box 2926	Phone (632) 525-3196/(632) 525-1748
T.M. Kalaw Street	Fax (632) 524-2329
Ermita, Manila 1000	E-mail: tnl@nlp.gov.ph
Philippines	

INVITATION TO SUBMIT BID PROPOSAL IT RESOURCES

June 13, 2002

The National Library is accepting bid proposals of hardware requirements listed below for further expansion of its Local Area Network. Interested parties may obtain the Pre-qualification Statement Forms (PSF) and Instruction to Bidders from the Property Section, The National Library.

Desktop Computers
Notebook Computer
Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS)
Printers

The National Library reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality therein, and to accept only such bids as are advantageous to the Agency.

(Sgd.) PRUDENCIANA C. CRUZ
DIRECTOR

(PDI—June 29 & July 6, 2002)

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Adultwear consign 3738821

BUY/SELL FULLY PD EDUC PLAN 7800106 09177939632

CAP EDUC PLAN
Monet 2528373 • 09174037776

•Travel N Earn From Home•
earn-and-travel.com
8531008 (0917)8901851

Bazaar/Mall/Exhibit
Spaces 633-9662 / 638-9608

Globe 265.5 / Smart 265 7459351

GREAT NEWS ! IF UR NOT EARNING OVER 200T/m @ UR PRSNT NETWRK BUS. LETS TALK NOW 6072359 RESH

I NEED MEDICINES HOSP SUPPLIES & EQUIPT ANY QNTY TXT/CALL09185173506

Supervisors P/F Time 8375066

Wanted Wholesaler of Refill Printer Ink Call us (CDC) 0425854240 / 09165329889

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the heirs of the late **VIVENCIO T. VIVAS** executed an extrajudicial settlement of Lot 2-P-2 under TCT No. 29584, Batangas, per Doc. No. 102; Page No. 21; Book No. XIX; Series of 2002 of Notary Public Emiliano N. Belmi, of Calatagan, Batangas.
(PDI-June 22, 29 & July 6, 2002)

We are an established publisher of several trade magazines, we are in need of:

GRAPHIC ARTIST

- ☑ A graduate of Mass Com, Fine Arts or any relevant related field, and computer literate;
- ☑ Proficient in Photoshop, Adobe PageMaker, Freehand 8 or 9, CorelDraw, and Illustrator
- ☑ Hardworker and can maintain a pleasant disposition

Appy in person at

626 G. Araneta Avenue
Quezon City
(infront of Funeraria Paz)

WANTED ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE FOR RADIO

Send your Bio-data, Resumé with NBI Clearance and 2" x 2" picture at P.O. BOX 4530 Makati Central Post Office, 1285 Makati City.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

A Korean Company is in need of qualified applicant for the position of

SECRETARY

for the Manila Office with the following qualifications:

- ☑ Female, preferably single and with pleasing personality
- ☑ At least 22 years old but not more than 30 years old
- ☑ Must be a graduate of any 4-year course
- ☑ Must have sufficient knowledge in computer operations
- ☑ Must have good oral and written communication skills

Interested applicants may visit to our Manila Office with their Application Letter, Resumé and recent 2x2 picture on or before July 1, 2002 at G/F Lobby, Legaspi Tower, Roxas Boulevard, Vito Cruz Street, Manila.

ESSE INTERNATIONAL INC.

EDPITAF

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IMPLEMENTING TASK FORCE

BULLETIN OF VACANT POSITIONS

(In compliance with RA 7041)

CASHIER I - Item No. OSEC-DECSB-CASH15-1998; graduate of a relevant Bachelor's degree; with Career Service (Professional)/Second Level Eligibility: with at least 6 months experience in government cashiering job; with finance-related training; Salary Range: P9,500 to P10,500 (SG10).

Qualified applicants must send their resumé, transcript of records, recent ID picture and other credentials to:

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OFFICE
DepEd-EDPITAF
Dorm D, DepEd Complex
Meralco Avenue, Pasig City

Deadline for submission of application is on **July 5, 2002.**

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
Maynila, Pilipinas
DISBURSEMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO BID

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) will conduct a bidding for the supply and delivery of two (2) units "York" Packaged Water Chiller, Model YCASOO98EB46YFA.

Interested suppliers are required to submit to the Disbursement Control Committee thru the Administrative Services Department, Room 212, 2nd Floor, 5-Storey Building, A. Mabini corner P. Ocampo Sr. Streets, Malate, Manila not later than July 9, 2002 photocopies of the following documents (original of No. 4 shall be presented for authentication purposes):

1. If the bidder is not the manufacturer, a certification from the manufacturer that the bidder is an authorized/exclusive distributor of the unit;
2. Certification of support from the manufacturer on spare parts availability and after sales service for a period of at least three (3) years;
3. Submission of brochures/literatures of the unit to be offered for evaluation purposes;
4. Articles of Incorporation and Business Registration Papers;
5. 2001 Audited Financial Statement (Balance Sheet & Income Statement - Minimum working capital of P1 Million and a networth of P2 Million) and Y2001 Income Tax Return;
6. Company history/profile and corporate structure; and
7. List of reference sites/successful installations with at least one (1) year experience with the proposed unit (complete with contact name, address and telephone/fax numbers).

Only those who submit/comply with the above requirements will be invited to participate in the bidding which will be held on a later date to be advised.

The two (2) envelope system shall be adopted in the bidding.

For particulars, please contact the Manager I, Procurement Division III, Administrative Services Department, Rm. 212, 2nd Floor, 5-storey Building, Tel. Nos. 523-1321/523-2875.

The BSP reserves the right to reject any or all bids, as well as to waive any defects in such bids, and to accept such bids as may be considered most advantageous to the Bank.

FOR THE DISBURSEMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE:

(Sgd.) **EDUARDO L. MAGAHIS**
Director
Administrative Services Department

(PDI - June 29, 2002)

NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION
GENCO 6

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID G6-2002-006

The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC)-GENCO 6 invites interested bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following requirements:

SCHEDULE		ITEM/DESCRIPTION	PR NUMBER
		DATE OF BIDDING : JULY 05, 2002; 2:00 PM	
A1	1 LOT	JO' SUPPLY OF LABOR, MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE FABRICATION, INSTALLATION AND TESTING OF THE FF: 1. 2 PCS HOT WELL PUMP SUCTION PIPES O.D.: 1,523MM, THICKNESS 3/8" SUS 304 2. 1 PC HOT WELL PUMP REDUCER, SUS 304 THICKNESS: 3/8" INCLUDING 2 PCS FLANGES	3MAK-02-0300

NOTE: Interested bidders should conduct site inspection at Mak-Ban GPP prior to a pre-bidding conference to be held on July 02, 2002, 10:00 am at SLRO Bidding Room.

Complete sets of Application Form for Eligibility and Bid Documents may be obtained from Procurement, Traffic and Warehousing Services (PTWS) Section, Administration Division, GENCO 6, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P50.00 starting June 25, 2002 No bid documents will be issued on the date of bidding.

Bids will be received at the SLRC Bidding Room, NPC-SLRC, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna until 2:00 o'clock P.M. on the date specified above after which Eligibility Requirements and initial Technical Proposals of eligible bidders will be opened in the presence of attending bidders

Prospective Bidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. Bids shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions of "Executive Order 262 and 40"

The Bidder shall furnish as part of his bid, a bid security in the amount equivalent to at least 2.5% of the approved budget in the form of Cash, Managers/Cashier's Check, Irrevocable Letter of Credit, Surety Bond, penal and callable on demand issued by a Surety or Insurance Company accredited by the Office of the Insurance Commission.

NPC-GENCO 6 reserves the right to reject any or all bids at any time prior to award of contract, waive any defects therein, and accept the offer most advantageous to the Corporation, without thereby incurring any of the following a) liability whatsoever to offset expenses or losses the bidder may incur in the preparation of the bids and b) obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the basis of the BAC's action.

(Sgd.) N. B. GOMEZ
Chairman-PBAC

(PDI--June 22 & 29, 2002)

A well established International company invites high calibre "IT" personnel to fill the following position:

JAVA/WEBSPHERE DEVELOPERS

The ideal candidates should possess at least three or more years working experience with developing complex Web applications.

Candidates must have the following working experience:

- ➢ IBM WebSphere Application Server
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Qualified applicant will be advised by e-mail or telephone for further interview.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS
LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE
East Avenue, Quezon City

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR Number RTL-MC-02389 / RTL-MC-02390
19 June 2002

TO: Regional Director for Region 3, Assistant Regional Director for Region 3, Heads of District Offices, Cashiers, and Other Employees Concerned

SUBJECT: COLLECTION OF COMPUTER FEES

Upon successful completion of the functional and operational testing, Certificates of Acceptance of an IT Facility (CAIFs) for the following modules of the Motor Vehicle Registration System (MVRS), Driver's Licensing System (DLS), and Revenue Collection System (RCS), were issued last June 7, 2002, for the following District Offices and Licensing Centers in Region 3 stated herein

Motor Vehicle Registration System (MVRS)

1. Renewal of registration of private motor vehicle (MV)
2. Renewal of registration of government MVs
3. Renewal of registration of for hire MVs

Driver's Licensing System (DLS)

1. New Student Permit
2. Plain Duplicate Student Permit
3. Renewal of Driver's License - Non-professional and Professional Driver's License
    a. Plain renewal (valid and no charges)
    b. Plain revision of records (valid and no changes)
4. Conversion of Foreign License (application not previously issued a Philippine Driver's License)
    a. Non-Professional
    b. Professional
5. Revision of Records
    a. Change in Address
    b. Change in Citizenship
    c. Change in Marital Status
    d. Change in Birthdate
    e. Change in Name
    f. Incorrect Name/Birthdate
6. Change Classification (valid licenses only)
    a. Additional Restriction Code 1
    b. Additional Restriction Code 2
    c. Additional Restriction Code 3
    d. Additional Restriction Code 4
    e. Additional Restriction Code 5

Revenue Collection System (RCS)

1. Fees Payment (without collection of computer fees if paid in check)
2. OR re-printing
3. OR number modification
4. OR inventory
5. End of Day
6. Start of Day

Region 3 District Offices and Licensing Centers with CAIFs

1. San Fernando DO
2. Pampanga LC
3. Baliuag DO
4. Malolos DO
5. Bulacan DO
6. Bataan LC
7. Nueva Ecija LC
8. Tarlac DO
9. Tarlac LC
10. Gapan DO
11. Balanga DO
12. Olongapo DO
13. Zambales LC
14. Cabanatuan DO

Accordingly, in compliance with the LTO-IT Project Build-Own-Operate (BOO) Agreement, you are hereby directed to commence the collection of computer fees on 01 July 2002, for the foregoing modules of the MVRS and DLS as follows:

	Computer Fee	VAT	Total
1. Motor Vehicle Registration	Php 120.00	12.00	Php 132.00
2. Driver's License	Php 48.00	4.80	Php 52.80

For strict compliance.

(Sgd.) **Roberto T. Lastimoso**
Asistant Secretary

Approved.

(Sgd.) **Arturo T. Valdez**
Undersecretary for Transportation DOTC &
Chairman, Steering Committee LTO-IT BOO Project

Philippine National Construction Corporation
EDSA corner Reliance Street, Mandaluyong City

INVITATION TO BID

The Philippine National Construction Corporation is inviting prospective towing services contractors to pre-qualify and to bid for:

TOWING SERVICES AT SOUTH LUZON TOLLWAYS
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A complete set of pre-qualification and bidding documents maybe obtained at the Materials Management Division - PNCC Central Office, Tel. No. 633-9978, starting **July 1, 2002** for a non-refundable bidding documents fee of Five Hundred Pesos only (P500.00).

Pre-bid conference will be on **July 5, 2002**, 2:00 PM at PNCC Central Office.

PNCC reserves the right to reject any or all bids or any part thereof without offering any reason, waive any defect/s or formality found therein, and shall accept the offer most advantageous to PNCC. PNCC neither assumes any obligation/s for any loss whatsoever that maybe incurred by the interested bidders in the preparation of their respective bids, nor does PNCC guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **IBARRA G. PAULINO**
Chairman, Pre-Qualification,
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI -- June 29, 2002)

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS
LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE
East Avenue, Quezon City

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR Number RTL-MC-02391
19 June 2002

TO: Regional Director for Region 4, Assistant Regional Director for Region 4, Heads of District Offices, Cashiers, and Other Employees Concerned

SUBJECT: COLLECTION OF COMPUTER FEES

Upon successful completion of the functional and operational testing, Certificates of Acceptance of an IT Facility (CAIFs) for the following modules of the Motor Vehicle Registration System (MVRS), Driver's Licensing System (DLS), and Revenue Collection System (RCS), were issued last June 7, 2002, for the following District Offices and Licensing Centers in Region 4 stated herein

Motor Vehicle Registration System (MVRS)

1. Renewal of registration of private motor vehicle (MV)
2. Renewal of registration of government MVs
3. Renewal of registration of for hire MVs
4. Renewal of private MVs with weekly penalty
5. Renewal of government MVs with weekly penalty
6. Renewal of for-hire MVs with weekly penalty
7. Renewal of private MVs with monthly penalty
8. Renewal of government MVs with monthly penalty
9. Renewal of for-hire MVs with monthly penalty

Driver's Licensing System (DLS)

1. New Student Permit
2. Plain Duplicate Student Permit
3. Renewal of Driver's License - Non-professional
    a. Plain renewal (valid and no charges)
    b. Plain revision of records (valid and no changes)
    c. With additional restriction code 1
4. Renewal of Driver's License - Professional
    a. Plain renewal (valid and no charges)
    b. Plain revision of records (valid and no changes)
5. Conversion of Foreign License (application not previously issued a Philippine Driver's License)
    a. Non-Professional
6. Revision of Records
    a. Change in Address
    b. Change in Citizenship
    c. Change in Marital Status
    d. Change in Name
    e. Incorrect Name

Revenue Collection System (RCS)

1. Fees Payment (without collection of computer fees if paid in check)
2. OR re-printing
3. OR number modification
4. OR inventory
5. End of Day
6. Start of Day

Region 4 District Offices and Licensing Centers with CAIFs

1. Lipa DO
2. San Pablo DO
3. Laguna LC
4. Batangas LC
5. Batangas DO
6. Quezon LC
7. Lucena DO
8. Angono EO
9. Cainta EO

Accordingly, in compliance with the LTO-IT Project Build-Own-Operate (BOO) Agreement, you are hereby directed to commence the collection of computer fees on 01 July 2002, for the foregoing modules of the MVRS and DLS as follows:

	Computer Fee	VAT	Total
1. Motor Vehicle Registration	Php 120.00	12.00	Php 132.00
2. Driver's License	Php 48.00	4.80	Php 52.80

For strict compliance.

(Sgd.) **Roberto T. Lastimoso**
Asistant Secretary

Approved:

(Sgd.) **Arturo T. Valdez**
Undersecretary for Transportation DOTC &
Chairman, Steering Committee LTO-IT BOO Project

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF DISPOSITION

The National Housing Authority is inviting offers to purchase by way of sealed bids the following commercial properties on an ***"As Is - Where Is"*** basis:

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	BASE PRICE/ SQ. METER	TERMS
I. SECOND TENDER				
001-004	4 lots, 1,050 to 5,090 sqm. With TCTs	Pleasant Hills Subd. San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan	PhP10,000.00	Cash
005-013	9 lots, 132.55 to 300.77 sqm. With TCTs	Phase I-B, Karangalan Village Project, Pasig	15,000.00 to 15,500.00	Cash
014-025	12 lots, 240 to 978 sqm. With TCTs	Towerville Resettlement Project, Brgy. Santo Cristo, San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan	3,000.00 to 3,250.00	Cash
II. FIRST TENDER				
26-27	2 lots, 812 & 813 sqm. For individual titling	Phase II-B, Karangalan Village Project, Pasig	10,000.00	Installment; Maximum of 10 years
28	1 lot, 1,000 sqm. With TCT	Lot 11, Blk. C2-IN, GMA Cavite	4,000.00	Cash

Interested parties may purchase one/any or all the lots offered, details of which may be secured for a non-refundable fee of PhP200.00 from the Commercial & Industrial Bids and Awards Committee (COINBAC), c/o CIED, Mezzanine Floor, NHA Building, Elliptical Road, Q.C. For inquiry, please call Evelyn V. Ramos or Neri A. Subido at the fl. tel. nos.: 922-3001, 923-0390, 928-4561 loc. 302-303.

SCHEDULE

A.	Submission of Pre-qualification Requirements	**June 24** to **July 5, 2002** until 5:00 p.m., CIED Mezzanine Flr. NHA Building, Q.C.
B.	Pre-Bid Conference	**July 1, 2002** (Monday) 2:30 p.m. Operations Center 3rd Floor, NHA Bldg.
C.	Submission of Sealed Bids	**July 8, 2002** (Monday) up to 12 noon, Operations Center 3rd Floor, NHA Bldg.
D.	Opening of Bids	**July 8, 2002** (Monday) 1:30 p.m., Operations Center 3rd Floor, NHA Bldg.

The NHA reserves the right to reject any or all bid offers or any part thereof or to waive any required formalities and accept offers most advantageous to the interest of NHA.

(Sgd.) **JOSEPH PETER S. SISON**
Assistant General Manager
& Chairman, COINBAC

(PDI - June 22 & 29 2002)

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To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul; in You I trust, O my God
Psalm 25:1

Olga Melgar Sison

Joined her Creator on June 26, 2002

Her husband Justice Juan A. Sison (✝)

Her children and children-in-law Kim and Ray, Carlos and Amy, Olga and Andy, Oscar, Joann and Ken, Daphne and Arnel, Yvonne and Ruel;

Her grandchildren Jauncy, Rhys, Zoe, C.V., Holly, Justin, Billy and Yvette request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Funeraria Paz, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Holy Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, June 30th at 8:00 a.m. at the Funeraria Paz and interment will follow at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

We, the family of the late

ATTY. JOSE N. NOLLEDO

who peacefully joined his Creator
on the 11th of June 2002

wish to extend our deepest thanks, gratitude and appreciation to you for all the kindness and support, and the countless ways you have helped ease our grief.

May God's blessing be ever yours.

Edith, Mike & Pau, Mimi & Marco, Nico
Nicole & Kate.

ANTONIO BELLO DELA CUEVA

of No. 13 St. Catherine Street, Perpertual Village, Taguig

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord
on June 27, 2002 at the age of 86.

His bereaved wife **Rosenda C. Dela Cueva**; children **Estrialita & Phillip Silva, Rene & Grace Dela Cueva, Hilda & Gerry San Juan, Steve & Yholly Dela Cueva, Rudy Dela Cueva, Raul & Marie Dela Cueva, Nelson Dela Cueva, Carl Dela Cueva**; grandchildren & great grandchildren and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in Perpetual Village Chapel, Taguig.

Interment will be on June 30th 2002, 9:00 a.m. at Manila Memorial Cemetery, Sucat, Parañaque.

Masses and Spiritual prayers will be appreciated.

ERNESTO T. TONG

Peacefully joined our Creator
on June 27, 2002 at the age of 59.

His remains lie in state at St. Peter Memorial Chapels, 296 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on June 30, 2002 at about 10:00 a.m. at La Funeraria Paz Crematorium, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:

❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
MAYNILA, PILIPINAS

AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR PICC PROJECTS

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS (BSP) invites Consultants to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid for the Architectural & Engineering Design Consultancy Services for the proposed Rehabilitation of the Fire and Water Damaged Areas at the PICC Complex. Prospective A&E Consultant must satisfy the following eligibility criteria:

1) Consultant should be a partnership or corporation, the principals of which must have at least fifteen (15) years of experience as Registered Architects and/or Civil Engineers and with at least fifteen (15) years of experience as Design Consultants.

2) Consultant should have provided within the last five (5) years design consultancy services for at least four (4) similar projects (specifically middle rise banks, hotels, and/or office building complexes with high standard quality architectural finishes; electrical, HVAC & electronic security systems) each costing not less than P50M and with an approximate size of 5000 sq.m. building floor area.

The provisions of Executive Order No. 40 prescribing the Guidelines on the Hiring of Consultants for Government Infrastructure Projects, as amended shall apply.

Eligibility documents may be obtained from the AD HOC Secretariat, Room 204, 2nd Floor, Five-Storey Building at the BSP Main Complex, A. Mabini Street, Manila starting **June 25, 2002** and must be submitted duly accomplished to the same Office not later than 4:30 p.m. on **July 12, 2002**.

(Sgd.) **VICENTE B. VALDEPEÑAS, JR.**
Chairman

(Sgd.) **JUAN QUINTOS, JR.**
Co-Chairman

(PDI--June 21 & 29, 2002)

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Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

GUIDELINES ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF COMELEC CHECKPOINTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE JULY 15, 2002 SYNCHRONIZED BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS. x---x	ABALOS, Benjamin S.	Chairman
	TANCANGCO, Luzviminda G.,	Commissioner
	JAVIER, Rufino S.B.,	Commissioner
	LANTION, Ralph C.,	Commissioner
	SADAIN, Mehol K.,	Commissioner
	BORRA, Resurreccion, Z.	Commissioner
	TUASON, Florentino, Jr. A.	Commissioner

Promulgated: 28 June 2002

RESOLUTION NO. 4864

WHEREAS, on 30 May 2002, the Commission on Elections promulgated Resolution No. 4818, entitled "Rules and Regulations On: (A) Bearing, Carrying Or Transporting Firearms Or Other Deadly Weapons; (B) Security Personnel Or Bodyguards; (C) Bearing Arms By Any Member of Security Or Police Organization of Government Agencies and Other Similar Organization; (D) Organization Or Maintenance of Reaction Forces During the Election Period In Connection With the July 15, 2002 Synchronized Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections";

WHEREAS, it is necessary to establish Comelec checkpoint to effectively implement Comelec Resolution No. 4818 and at the same time ensure that in the establishment and operation of checkpoints, civil and political rights are not infringed and that constitutional and legal procedures are observed properly;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission on Elections has **RESOLVED** to promulgate, as it hereby promulgates, the following guidelines for the establishment and operation of Comelec checkpoints;

SECTION. 1. Comelec checkpoints. - There shall be at least one Comelec checkpoint in each city/municipality. Additional checkpoints may be established at the discretion of the highest ranking official of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) or the Philippine National Police in the city/municipality.

Sec. 2. Checkpoint location. - The officials mentioned in the immediately preceding section shall, in consultation with the city/municipal Election Officer, establish Comelec checkpoints in well-lighted places or in places where there are sufficient illumination. In areas where electric light is not available, artificial lighting shall be provided for the purpose.

Sec. 3. Checkpoint signboard. - Every Comelec checkpoint shall have a signboard measuring three feet by four feet (3' x 4'), to clearly identify the place as a Comelec checkpoint from a reasonable distance.

The following shall be printed/painted on both sides of the signboard in bold letters on a white background:

STOP

COMELEC CHECKPOINT

Please bear with us
Thank you for your cooperation.

____
Name and Address of Election Officer

____
Name of Commanding Officer/Team Leader

Sec. 4. Notice of location of checkpoints. - The commanding officer/team leader of the checkpoint must give notice to the Election Officer in the city/municipality as well as non-governmental organizations and other civic organizations about the establishment and location of Comelec checkpoints in the locality.

Sec. 5 Spot checkpoint. - Where the circumstances warrant, spot checkpoints may be established in locations other those mentioned in the preceding section. Before establishing such checkpoints, the commanding officer/team leader shall give notice to the Election Officer.

Sec. 6. Personnel to man checkpoint. – Any unit designated to man a Comelec checkpoint must be led by a regular member of the Armed Forces of the Philippines or the Philippine National Police with the rank of at least Sergeant or its equivalent.

All personnel manning the checkpoints must be in complete uniform and shall not be under the influence of liquor/drug. Any violation hereof will subject the offender and his commanding officer jointly liable for administrative/criminal action.

Sec. 7. Briefing by the commanding officer/team leader. – The commanding officer/team leader must give a briefing to all members of the unit who will be designated to man the checkpoint, with emphasis on the proper manner of searching with reasonableness.

Sec. 8. Searches at Comelec checkpoint. – Only members of the unit designated to man the same shall make the search at any Comelec checkpoint. It should be done in a manner with the least inconvenience upon the person or persons so searched, to the end that civil, political and human rights are not violated.

As a rule, a valid search must be authorized by a search warrant duly issued by the proper authority. However, a warrant-less search can be made in the following cases:

a) Moving vehicles and the seizure of evidence made in plain view;
b) As long the vehicle is not searched or its occupants subjected to a body search, and the inspection of the vehicle is merely limited to a visual search;
c) When the occupant(s) of the vehicle appear to be nervous or suspicious or exhibit unnatural reaction;
d) If the officer conducting the search has reasonable or probable cause to believe that either the occupant(s) is a law offender or that the instrumentality or evidence pertaining to the commission of a crime can be found in the vehicle to be searched; and
e) On the basis of prior confidential information which are reasonably corroborated by other attendant matters.

Sec. 9. Rights of person arrested. — Any person arrested at a Comelec checkpoint must be treated humanely and with utmost respect for his constitutional rights. He must be informed of the following rights:

a) To remain silent, which cannot be waived except in writing and in the presence of counsel;
b) To have competent and independent counsel preferably of his own choice, and if he cannot afford the services of counsel, he must be provided with one, which right cannot be waived except in writing and in the presence of counsel;
c) To be released from detention if no charges have been filed against him within eighteen (18) hours from the arrest, unless he is charged under P.D. 1866, as amended.

Sec. 10. Record of arrest. — Any arrest made at a Comelec checkpoint shall be immediately and chronologically recorded in a logbook for the purpose, specifically stating the circumstances of the arrest and other particulars about the person and confiscated weapons, ammunitions and materials.

The arresting officer shall execute an affidavit of arrest stating clearly and distinctly the facts and circumstances surrounding the arrest.

Sec. 11. Report and turn-over of arrested person. — Any person arrested at a Comelec checkpoint, including the confiscated material, weapon and ammunition, must be immediately turned-over to the nearest law enforcement station or office together with the corresponding affidavit of arrest for proper action.

The chief of police/detachment concerned shall conduct a preliminary examination and submit the result thereof to the provincial/city prosecutor for preliminary investigation, furnishing copies thereof to the Election Officer concerned, the Law Department of the Commission and their respective operations centers.

Sec. 12. Visit by relatives. — Any person arrested at a Comelec checkpoint has a right to be visited by his relatives at reasonable hours of the day and night, according to reasonable rules and regulations that may be implemented by the station commander or commanding officer of the detachment.

Sec. 13. Report of the Committee on Firearms and Security Personnel. The Committee on Firearms and Security Personnel shall submit to the Commission on Elections a weekly report stating the particulars of all arrests made during the election period.

Sec. 14. Effectivity. — This resolution shall take effect on the seventh day after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Sec. 15. Dissemination. — The Education and Information Department shall cause the publication of this resolution in two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation, and shall furnish the AFP Chief of Staff, the Director General of the Philippine National Police, the Regional Election Directors, the Provincial Election Supervisors and the Election Officers, copies of said resolution.

BENJAMIN S. ABALOS
Chairman

LUZVIMINDA G. TANCANGCO
Commissioner

RUFINO S.B. JAVIER
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Commissioner

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Commissioner

RESURRECCION Z. BORRA
Commissioner

FLORENTINO A. TUASON, JR.
Commissioner

(PDI--June 29, 2002)

OBITUARIES

"Eternal life will swallow up that which can die. God made us for this very reason and He has given us the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again."
2 Corinthians 5:4-5

"Happy are those who have died in the Lord."
Let them rest from their labor for their
good deeds go with them.
Rev. 14:13

In Loving Memory
on the **1st Death Anniversary** of our
Dearly Beloved

ALEXANDER "ALEX" F. DAUZ

of Bontoc, Mountain Province

who died in the Grace of our Lord
on June 29, 2001 at the age of 35.

Holy Masses will be offered at the following churches on June 29, 2002:

• Sta. Rita Cathedral, Bontoc, Mt. Province	6:00 AM
• San Rafael Church, Mabalacat, Pampanga	6:00 AM
• Our Lady of Abundant Parish of Sta. Ana	6:30 AM
• Pink Sisters Monastery, Brent, Baguio City	6:30 AM
• Mater Dolorosa Parish, East Rembo, Makati City	6:30 AM
• Guadalupe Church, Brgy. Nuevo, Guadalupe, Makati City	6:30 AM
• Sto. Rosario Church, Cebu City	4:00 PM

The family requests relatives, friends and pious readers
to join them in praying for the eternal repose of his soul.

We've added another dignified service to keep the memory of your departed loved ones.

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In Loving Remembrance
On the 2nd Death Anniversary
of our beloved

CYNTHIA E. TUANQUI VALTE

She passed away on June 29, 2000 in Woodland Hills, C.A. at age 59
We, her family, relatives and friends deeply miss her presence but her loving
memories will always remain in our hearts forever.

St. Peter Parish Church, Q.C.	June 29, 2002	10:00 am
St. Timothy's Church, West, LA, CA, USA	June 29, 2002	10:30 am
Lady of the Valley Church, Canoga Park, CA, USA	June 29, 2002	10:30 am

---

DOMINGA PANLILIO NIETO

Died in the Grace of our Lord and
Joined her beloved husband ***Cornelio*** *on June 28, 2002.*

Her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren:

Luz & Bert Cayanan
Paz Nieto - Barrios
Luis & Zeny Barrios
JM
George Barrios
Bryan
Eduard & Ana Barrios
Jica & Geli
Dr. Rolando & Dr. Ethelyn Pasion - Nieto
Drs. Joseph Kenneth & Girlie Nieto
Nicole, Michael & Matthew
Attys. J. Keith & Elen Nieto
James Kenrick & Anabel Nieto
Lawrence Martin & Ana Isabel
Judy Kristine & Edwin Achacoso
Angelica Therese
Janelle Kathleen
Jan Kurt Anthony
Dr. Milagros & Dr. Carlos Padilla
Dr. Cen Lemuel
Hannah
Jomo Aaron

Request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at the Capella La Pieta, Filinvest East Homes, Antipolo City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, the 3rd of July, 2002 at the Heaven's Gate Memorial Park after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

More 'condos for the poor' eyed

BECAUSE land is not only limited but also expensive in urban areas, the only way to accommodate more people on a piece of land at the least cost is to build new, improved and even coop-built and coop-managed MRBs (medium-rise buildings).

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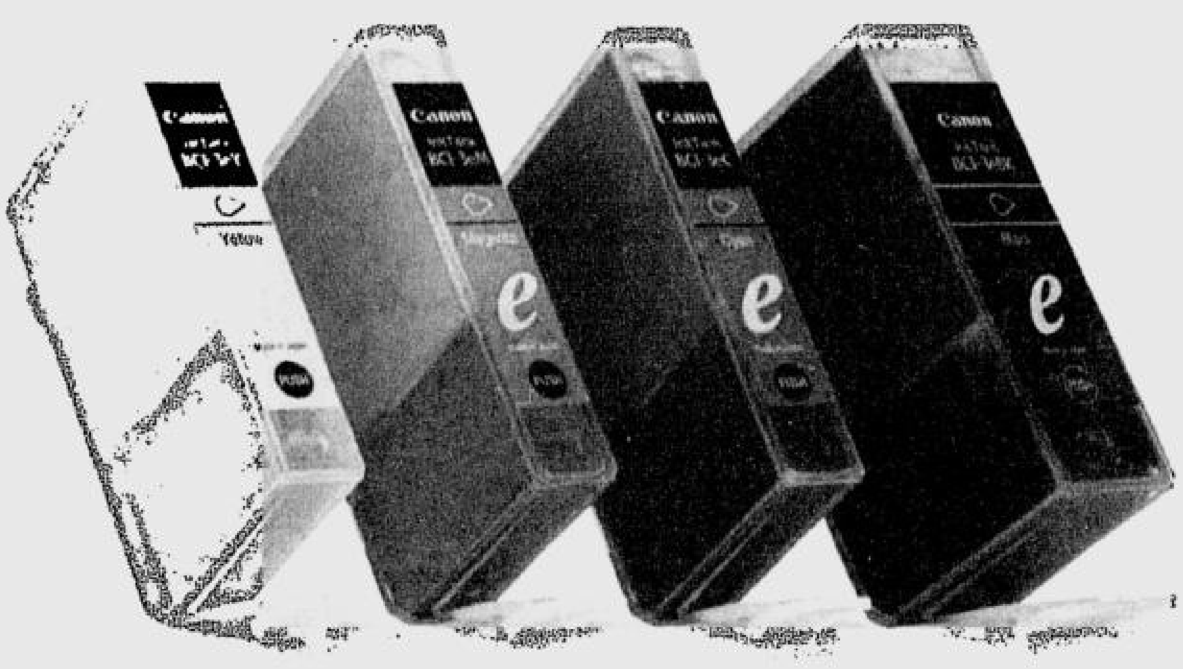

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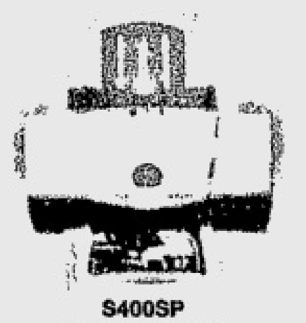

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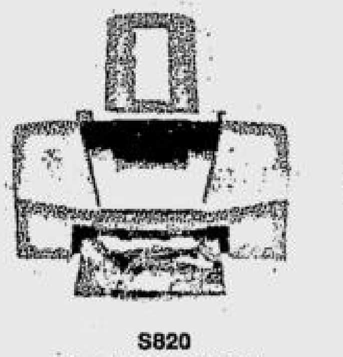

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Visit www.fina.org and www.omegawatches.com for further information on Fina and Omega

BITS & Clips

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People, Events & Products

Aries Espinosa, Editor
aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

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SATURDAY Special
Nestor U. Torre ◉ Associate Editor Edmund L. Sicam

SINIKA BAND. From left, Ike Bernardino, Ela Faye Lanzanas, Picolo Lanzanas and Nonoy Lanzanas. Not in photo are Corinne Padilla and Jerico Lanzanas.

Sinika band makes Palawan residents proud

By Ronald G. Mangubat

THERE is something intrinsically refreshing about Sinika's music. Its merry mix of flute, percussion, tambur, drums and keyboard produces sounds akin to nature's primal rhythms—the whistling wind, raging storm, crashing surf, trickling water—all conjuring up images of tropical islands. While the group's grassroots songs talk about the environment, culture and values, Sinika's music is also both homage and pledge to the enchanting island of Palawan.

Artistic hunger

It was in Cuyo Island, northwest Palawan, where Nonoy Lanzanas went in 1985 to be with the natives of the place. After 11 years of working at Philippine Airlines, and two more years doing corporate work at Hyatt, Palawan, Nonoy felt an aching artistic hunger inside that needed to be satisfied.

"I got tired of the rat race and just went to Cuyo to study the natives and their music," he reminisces. During that time, the idea of forming a band composed of his children was the farthest thing from his mind. For two years, Nonoy simply followed his instincts and lived with the natives. "I let them listen to a few local children's songs and they responded positively."

Positive response

So positive was the response that Nonoy soon found himself singing and playing guitar in a local cultural radio program, "Sa Kapupuruan" (In the Islands), aired over dyPR in Palawan. As Ela Faye Lanzanas, 22, Nonoy's daughter, recalls, "The program featured traditional songs of Cuyo, and my *papa* and other family friends thought that we, the children, could sing. So we sang in schools, parks and the like. That started it, at enjoy *naman kaming lahat*."

The group called Sinika (short cut for Sining ng Katutubo or art of the natives) was composed of Nonoy, 53, his daughter Ela Faye, his two sons Jerico, 21, and Picolo, 13, and two family friends—Corinne Padilla, 26, and Ike Bernardino, 42.

In 1988, they started performing everytime there would be dignitaries who visited the islands. "*Parang naging* cultural attache *na rin kami*," Nonoy says.

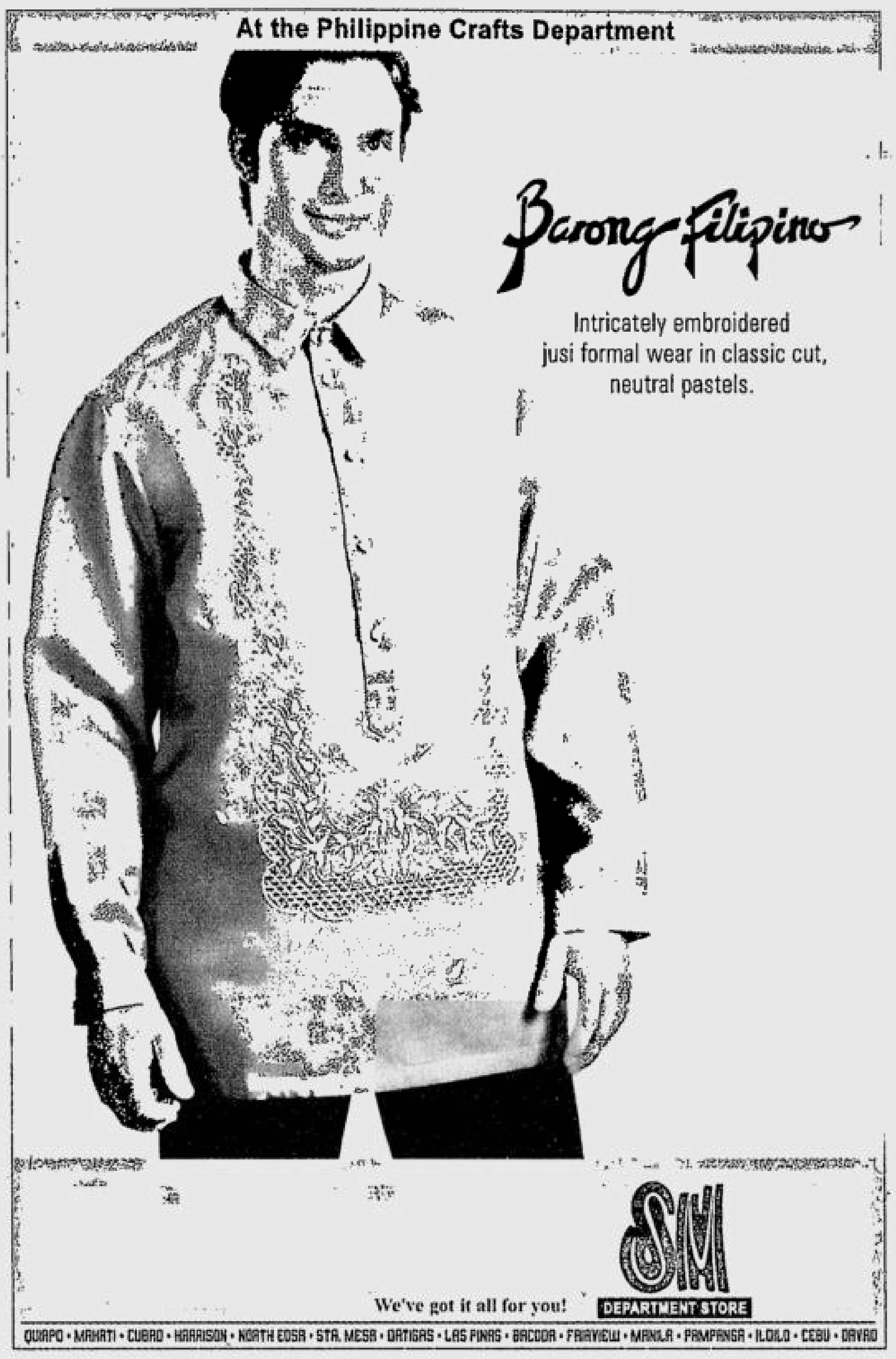
At first, his wife, Ruby, couldn't understand what was going on. "*Siyempre*, natural *yung* fears *nya*. I left the corporate world and went into music. *Sinama ko pa ang mga anak ko*. But when we were getting praises already, *binigay na rin niya ang kanyang* full support."

Ela Faye, an environmental science graduate, recalls that it has not been easy for the family to juggle between performing and answering the call of their duties. "I remember, there were times *na may*mid-term exams *ako pero kailangan kong mag*-excuse *dahil may* performance *kami. Buti na lang*, considerate *ang mga* teachers." But Nonoy stressed that he never forced any of his children to perform. "Voluntary *lahat. Syempre*, I don't want them to sacrifice their studies, but they were able to balance singing and schoolwork because they loved both worlds."

Thrust

When environmental awareness and education became the thrust of Palawan, Nonoy thought of using his music to support the cause. His first composition, "Salamat, Inang Kalikasan" was a tribute to Mother Nature from a tribe's

SINIKA/ p. C2



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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2050, Series of 2002

Edu Manzano plays different kind of villain in new soap

By Edmund L. Sicam

EDU Manzano is back to acting in a soap titled "Kay Tagal Kang Hinintay," with a star-studded cast headed by Lorna Tolentino. Also appearing are John Lloyd Cruz, Rica Peralejo, John Estrada, Ricky Davao, Johnny Delgado, Bing Loyzaga, Bernard Palanca and Bea Alonzo.

The *teleserye* premieres on July 1 on ABS-CBN but the network isn't saying what time slot it will occupy. It's all part of the network war. GMA is reportedly airing its own soap with Richard Gomez in the lead and the TV giants are trying to outmaneuver each other.

Edu plays a *contrabida* for the nth time. Why does he always end up with roles like this? "I have no idea. I mean, it's so disappointing," Edu says in his deadpan, you-wonder-if-he's-kidding way. "No, I guess it's more of a stretch of the imagination—I blame it all on Rudy Fernandez. If he didn't get me for that first *contrabida* role, way back in 1998, people would not have seen that other side of me."

Glamour boy

But didn't his career path start out as a matinee idol, or a glamour boy? Edu laughs, and says, "I'm so glad Rudy came into my life..." But Edu says seriously, "Even Rudy didn't think it was going to work. He just wanted to try something new. I took off after that. *Ang daming dumating sa buhay ko.* Nice roles. It stuck to me, stronger than the 'great' impression I made as a 'matinee idol.'" He says the last part with a chuckle—he doesn't seem to believe he ever was a matinee idol.

So, just how bad is he in this soap opera? "Ruthless... He's a devoted family man, but he's also a ruthless businessman. Let no man come between him and his daughters! He's totally dark. Very, very dark. While he may not do the dirty work himself, he orders it. He's very powerful, but it's a contrast to what he's like when his children are around—very gentle.

"You could compare the character to Al Pacino in 'Godfather 3,' where he wanted to legitimize himself to a certain degree, by going to the Vatican... *ganoon.*

MANZANO. "Blames" everything on Rudy Fernandez.

But his family was always his priority. His finances come from dubious sources. And there will come a time in his life when he'll want to legitimize the entire enterprise under one roof, like say, he's made enough, so now he'll make good money with good money."

Just how different is his role as a villain in "Kay Tagal" from that as the quizmaster with a mean streak on "The Weakest Link"? "I had to act really nasty *dito sa* "Kay Tagal." *Sa* Weakest Link, incidentally... it's me. But really, even if you don't want to be, how do you say 'Goodbye' smiling, *di ba?*"

But it seems that his "Goodbyes" these days are not as cold... is he trying to be kinder? "You start to feel bad about it, *e.* If I say goodbye to a lady contestant, I look at her. I don't look away. *Di ba tayong mga Pinoy, ganun?*"

Sarcastic remarks

And it seems that his sarcastic remarks have been cut down. Edu explains, "Because now we don't want me to dominate the show. It should be the contestants."

Just like his character on the soap, Edu himself is a family man of sorts. He talked at length about his son, Lucky. He was asked about the relationship between Lucky and his girlfriend, Nancy Castiglione. They're reported to be having problems these days.

"They were out last night. Went home at midnight." When we teased him about knowing, he quips, "I was following in the car in the back, *e.*" But Edu continues, seriously, "*Kahapon, sabi lang sa akin lalabas sila. Hindi ko tinanong* if they're back in each other's arms . . . *Gusto mong itanong*, but you'd rather it came from their lips, *di ba?* You can fish, but sometimes you don't know what the trigger word is that will cause him to open up." So Lucky doesn't ask him for advice? "No, he asks for money." Edu laughs again.

Has he had a talk with Lucky about the birds and the bees? "Yeah." And...?

"He's been very helpful to me." But all joking aside . . . "There's so much information that they have today. Sometimes your opinions may be based on social biases that are contrary to things he may have already learned, like from the internet, videos."

Potent weapon

Isn't he afraid Lucky will learn the wrong things? "Very. The ability to make love, in the hands of the wrong person, is a potent weapon. My biggest fear is his getting involved with somebody that, when they wake up, they wonder how they ever got there in the first place. Because the moment you make love, there's an emotional dependency already. *Sa lalake, ha.* I'm not speaking for the female."

Is he afraid Lucky might get a girl pregnant? "Yes. It's become so matter of fact *na, e.* No big deal. No, on the contrary. If it ever happens—although I do pray that it doesn't, I hope it's with a woman he has honest-to-goodness feelings for. Regardless of age. If he falls in love with a woman 5, 8 years his senior, I don't mind. It's just that there are times in your life when you wake up in the morning and you look at the person beside you and you'd rather turn over than reach out and give that person a kiss, *di ba?*

"To live in that kind of atmosphere your whole life, where everything you do necessitates an effort—what a sad prospect. It's just so nice when everything comes so casually, so matter of factly. No effort. You don't want your son to take even the first step in that direction—I think I'm just being too over-protective."

The girls of 'OK Fine, Whatever' just wanna have fun

VALDEZ. Her character in the sitcom talks like a game show host.

By Jocelyn Valle

ALTHOUGH "OK Fine, Whatever" capitalizes on the unique tandem of heartthrob Aga Muhlach and comedian Bayani Agbayani as twins (named Michael and Miguel, respectively), Channel 2's Tuesday-night sitcom likewise takes advantage of the performing skills and following of its supporting cast, led by veteran actress Gloria Romero.

Unexpected moments

Rica Peralejo, who plays the tomboyish Icay, does some acrobatic moves during unexpected moments in the show. Michelle Bayle lends sexiness to her Ruby character who works in the gasoline station that Michael and Miguel have inherited from their deceased father, and likewise has a big crush on the latter.

Fresh from her success as the kooky friend of Claudine Barretto in the smash hit, "Got 2 Believe," singer-actress Nikki Valdez goes comic all the way as she plays Romero's househelp, Camilla, who talks like a game-show host.

Freshness

Heart Evangelista provides freshness with her comely countenance and pert personality. She also keeps the youth crowd, who'd rather watch cable TV or play video games, glued to the program. Ditto for Rica and Michelle for the male viewers.

The four girls of "OK Fine, Whatever" chorus that they're having fun on the show. *"Hindi kami nagsasapawan dito,"* clarifies Rica. *"Masaya ang grupo. Minsan nga, napapagalitan na kami ni Direk* (Johnny Manahan)."

They also find something funny in each other. Michelle, for instance, can't help giggling whenever Heart goes inside their dressing room. "*Meron siyang* national anthem," she shares and sings, "I'll always remember..." (the theme from Mandy Moore's hit movie, "A Walk to Remember").

"Akala niya tulog ako," she adds, laughing. "*Nagko*-concert *talaga siya sa* dressing room."

Rica squeals in agreement, and adds: *"Parati din siyang tumitingin sa salamin, tapos sasabihin niya: 'Ang arte-arte ko talaga.' Sobra pa siyang bungisngis. Bentang-benta ang mga* jokes *ko sa kanya."*

Nikki, meanwhile, marvels at Heart's inquisitiveness. *"Batang-bata pa kasi,"* she explains. *"Masarap din na may tumatawag sa akin ng Ate* Niks."

Silent type

Blushing, Heart, 17, reveals that she always sees Nikki sleeping in their dressing room, while she tags Michelle as the silent type. "*Pero sa kanya ako nakakakuha ng mga* tips *sa pagme*-makeup," she shares.

And though Michelle was born and raised in Canada, Nikki finds her *mahinhin. "Akala ko naman, hindi siya marunong mag*-Tagalog," Rica interjects. *"Magaling pala."*

Nikki and Rica have known each other since their "Ang TV" days, so they naturally feel comfortable swapping teasing remarks. "*Si* Nikki, *katulad ng* role *niya sa* sitcom, *mahilig sa* foreigner, *kaya natural ang* acting *niya*," Rica winks, alluding to her friend's past liaison with Fil-Am actor Troy Montero.

Nikki, in response, insists that Rica loves BJ, which is the nickname of Rica's boyfriend, singer-actor Bernard Palanca.

Does Nikki find herself funny? "That's what other people say," she replies, grinning.

Horrendous experience

One of her funniest moments, though, was a rather horrendous experience. She was in Boracay with her "Asap" co-hosts Roselle Nava, Carol Banawa and Pops Fernandez. "*Pagbaba ko* from the pool area, *nadulas ako*," she recalls, shaking her head. "*Nag*-panic *ako kasi hindi ako talaga marunong lumangoy. Nakakatawa din kasi naka*-two-piece swimsuit *pa ako noon, tapos nawala ang* poise ko."

Michelle had a similar experience when she was still a cheerleader in Toronto. "We were on-cam so I was really excited running and smiling 'Hi! Hi!' and then *nabunggo ako*," she remembers with embarrassment.

Both Nikki and Michelle admit they love comedy. Nikki enjoys watching "Ally McBeal," while Michelle's favorite sitcoms are "Friends" and "Will and Grace." And she always falls for the antics of Jim Carrey and Adam Sandler.

Nikki singles out the Bette Midler starrer, "That Old Feeling," as a movie that really made her laugh.

IN PHOTO: Ms. Julie Aguihap of BFAD, Ms. Luz Valerio of KimBells Pack, Inc., with the NIVEA marketing group.
Ms. Claire Leonio, brand manager, Ms. Rica King, marketing manager and Mr. Melvin Nubla, brand manager.

Roll On With Nivea Deo

NIVEA DEO USER WINS BRAND NEW BMW316i

NIVEA, the world's leading skin care brand, recently conducted its grand raffle draw for the Roll On with Nivea Deo Raffle promo last June 21, 2002 at the JDH Philippines head office in Libis, Quezon City. The promo was highlighted by raffling off a brand new BMW316i which also corresponds to P30,000 cash and P30,000 worth of NIVEA products to the outlet where the product was purchased.

All the winners were verified by Ms. Julie Aguihap from the Bureau of Food and Drugs and Ms. Luz Valerio of KimBells Pack Incorporated, supplier of the specially marked entry stickers. Melvin Nubla, brand manager of NIVEA, said that they were very happy on the outcome of the promo as they received thousands of raffle entries all over the country. In fact, most of the winners who were drawn came from the provinces, including the winner of the BMW316i who hails from Cebu City. According to Nubla, they even had to extend the promo duration due to numerous requests from the consumers. The NIVEA Deo Raffle Promo mall tour at Landmark Makati and Alabang Town Center further highlighted the event.

The lucky winner of the BMW was Mr. Gino Uy Yongco and the corresponding winning outlet was Metro Gaisano Cebu. The Winner of the Technomarine watch was Jessie Uy. For the 50 NIVEA gift baskets, winners were as follows: Abelardo Barrozo (Rizal), Sabiano Marcos (Makati), Susan Sanson (Makati), Peter Sumilao (Neg. Occ.), Kristopher delos Triñas (San Juan), Lolita Cubinar (Camarines Norte), Dante dela Cruz (Manila), Maria Paz Muring (Q.C.), Roberto Tan (Cebu), Ma. Rissa Villanueva (Marikina), Stephany Villareal (Manila), Antonio Ang (Las Piñas), Adriano Escleto (Bulacan), Renerio Manayon (Davao), Norman Garcia (Davao), Maribeth Limpin (Gen. Santos), Lyra Pedrosa (Butuan), Jose Daligdig (Iligan), Marivic Tumulak (Cebu), Jaime Leaño (Caloocan), Reseller Regencia (Q.C.), Michael Buma-at (CDO), Arsenio Rioflorido (Rizal), Anthony dela Cruz (Olongapo City), Amabelle Manuel (CDO), Antonio Ibaviosa (Manila), Jeffrey Casia (Davao), Mark Montalban (Legaspi), Tyke Encomienda (Q.C.), Miguel Agot Jr. (CDO), Mary Gallego (Davao), Nelia Zayas (CDO), Nowel Chua (Pasig), Jessica Quibuyen (Las Piñas), Franco Obsequias Jr. (CDO), Melinda Talastas (Bulacan), Rosita Cubinar (Bulacan), Sara Arjona (Cavite), Janeth Bacani (Q.C.), Wendelyn Chua (Sampaloc), Nelinda Salas (Iloilo), Loreta Uy (Cebu), Epple Domingo (Laoag), Teresa Mutia (Pasig), Rosita Paja (Iloilo), Ramil Andaya (Bulacan), Nilacor Flores (Q.C.), Laurento Eusebio (Laguna), Benito Sobang Jr. (Makati).

All winners will be notified via telegram. To claim their prizes, winners are requested to bring two (2) valid IDs and telegram.

The promo featured NIVEA Deo which includes NIVEA Deo Roll-on for Men, NIVEA Deo Roll-on for Women, NIVEA Deo Spray for Men and NIVEA Deo Spray for Women. Also part of the NIVEA Deo family is the NIVEA Deo Whitening Roll-on that comes in 50ml. and 25ml. sizes. These products are available in all supermarkets, department stores and drug stores nationwide. For inquiries, please call the NIVEA marketing department at telephone number 687-5620. Per BFAD Permit No. 087807, Series of 2001.

NIVEA DEO Roll-On for Men and Women are available in 50ml. and 25ml. sizes. NIVEA DEO Spray for Men and Women are available in 50ml. and 150ml. sizes.

Sinika band makes . . .

From p. C1

point of view. Nonoy said it was this song that led to Sinika's acquiring its own personality.

"Doon namin naisip na ang gusto naming image, *yung musika talaga ng mga* islanders." Soon, other songs followed. *"Iba't-ibang* format *ng kanta tungkol sa mga magasasaka, guro, mangingisda, manggagawa, marami pa."*

This experimentation with different formats gave greater depth and shape to their music. While before, it was simply guitar, flute and other ethnic instruments that defined their folksy, grassroots melodies, Nonoy said they soon relied on western technology like synthesizers to enhance their sound.

As far as the messages of their songs are concerned, Nonoy makes sure that his compositions are far from preachy, saying that music has to be enjoyed rather than be pondered on.

In 1992, Sinika, for the first time, performed outside Palawan when they were invited to sing at the International School in Makati during an arts festival. This was followed by a back-to-back concert with Gary Granada, a nightly singing stint at Trader's Hotel for eight months, and an invitation to represent the country and perform at the Asean Tourism Forum in Brunei.

Musical score

While relishing the highs of performing when he was commissioned to do the musical score for "Puerto Princesa," a Gil Portes film on the life and times of Mayor Edward Hagedorn, Nonoy found the experience challenging and felt that it further sharpened his musical abilities.

Years later, a French production outfit also asked him to do the musical scoring for a documentary on a rare Philippine bird.

It was, however, their inclusion as one of the finalists in the 1999 Metropop Song Festival that gave them national exposure. Their song, "Amus," which is an invitation to come see the Philippines, became the audience's favorite. "They were stamping their feet, clapping, cheering for us, and we were so overwhelmed," said Nonoy.

Ela Faye adds: "And we were performing with mainstream singers like Regine Velasquez, so *iba talaga ang pakiramdam."*

Sinika has also been featured on CNN and their song, " Awit ng Basurero," which tackles the problem of environmental management, has been translated into Japanese and is being aired on NHK television.

Recently, they were also invited to perform on the "Wow Philippines" float during the June 12 Independence Day parade. Such achievements truly make his fellow Palaweños proud.

30 original songs

After composing more than 30 original songs, Nonoy feels that their music will continue to evolve and improve. Their first album, "Latong Cuyo," which featured eight original songs, was independently produced and has not been released commercially. Nonoy hopes that, in due time, they will be able to come out with a commercial album.

On the other hand, his daughter Ela dreams that Sinika will perform in other countries. Without really planning, the group has already reached a kind of stature that, years ago, Nonoy never thought would happen. "We were just enjoying the experience, and then one thing led to another," he exclaims.

Wherever the road will lead them, Sinika will forever be singing songs about Palawan, the island close to their hearts.

Day of tragedy and heroism relived

By Nestor U. Torre

LAST Saturday, our family watched the CNN documentary special, "In Memoriam: New York City 9/11/01, and our thoughts raced back to that numbing day of tragedy some nine months ago.

TV set

We had just arrived in Fukuoka, Japan to cover the annual Asian film festival there and the conferment of the much-prized Fukuoka Culture Award on Marilou Diaz-Abaya. As is our wont, we switched on the TV set in our hotel room and were alternately dozing off and channel-surfing.

After some minutes, we found ourself watching a man on CNN making a live "breaking news" report about "something happening" at the World Trade Center in New York City. The report was very vague, but we did see a plume of smoke coming out of one of the Center's towers.

This was disturbing, but it was only a pale prefiguring of the cataclysmic and world-changing tragedy that the incident would turn out to be in only a few more hours.

On-camera reporter

We forgot about our nap and stayed tuned to the channel as, little by little, that lone on-camera reporter began to piece together what exactly had happened. But it took long minutes before he started getting phone-in reports from residents in the area that a plane had been seen plowing into the tower, hence the fire that was now raging.

Of course, most viewers thought it was an accident. Then, before our very eyes, we saw a live shot of what looked like another plane slowly approach the other tower—and plow into it as well! With a start, we realized that we had just witnessed the incineration of hundreds of people in that tower— *and that this was no accident.*

Similar explosions

Later, reports would come in from the Pentagon and other areas about similar explosions or aborted terrorist attempts—and that was it, we didn't sleep the whole night even if we had a gruelling schedule the following day.

We prayed for all those victims, we reeled from the shock of seeing those towers eventually crumble to the ground, we saw the terror of the people running away from the carnage, and we were inspired by the acts of heroism that we saw on TV that long, seemingly endless day, and night.

Last Saturday, viewing the "In Memoriam" docu on HBO, we relived that day of tragedy and heroism, and the special helped immensely in our recollection.

Aside from showing us the images that had already seared themselves into our memory nine months before, the docu showed heretofore unseen footage from the video cameras of over a hundred New York residents.

Shots

The shots were taken from many angles and perspectives, but they were one in documenting how initially terrified and then heroic many New Yorkers were last Sept. 11.

The sterling example of determination under fire was set by then Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who walked the raging streets like other New Yorkers, exposing himself to the same dangers they faced.

As we watched the commemorative special, our admiration for its even-handed tone and rigorous focus steadily grew. The docu absolutely resisted the temptation to "jazz up" the tragic and shocking visuals for maximum "excitement" and "viewer impact."

Montage

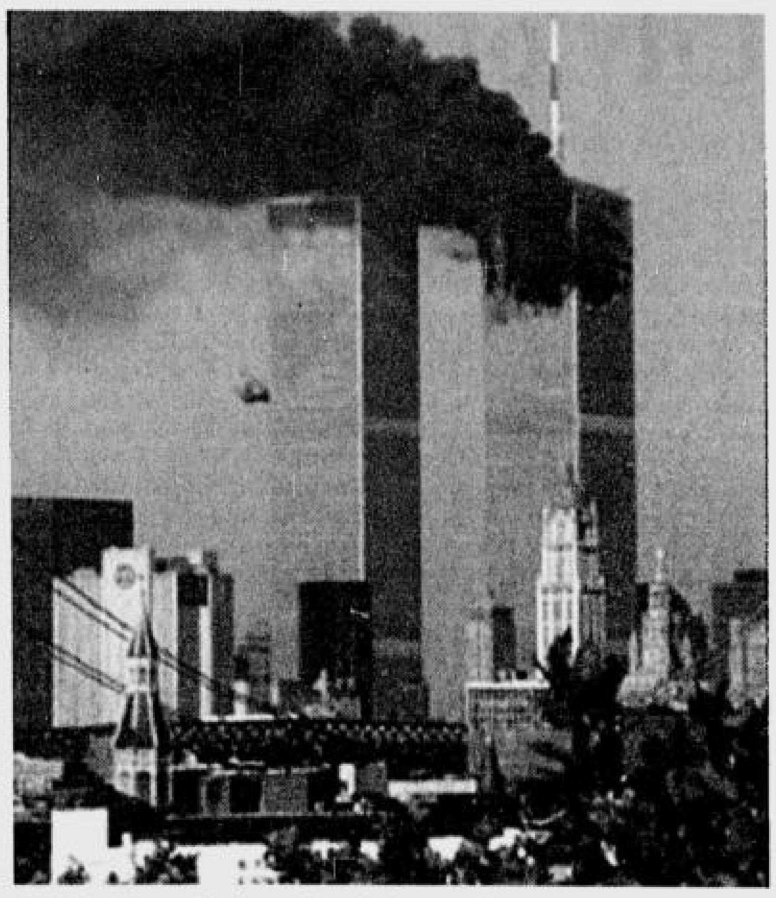
Instead of lingering on one shocking image and playing it for all it was worth, the special concentrated on montage, a combination of many images that did not exploit a single, unusually powerful shot, but worked at achieving a cumulative impact, a composite impression and effect.

This approach astutely gave the shocking shots a more objective and less hysterically emotional quality that enabled viewers to think of the tragedy not as exciting entertainment, but as a life-transforming historical event.

Key difference

This is not to say that the docu was not an emotional viewing experience; it was. The key difference, however, was that the emotions were recollected in relative tranquility, and were thus much less self-serving and exploitative than they would otherwise have been.

Can you imagine how over-the-top the coverage of the same event would have been if some of our local TV news programs had done it? Thankfully, on "In Memoriam," the handling was felt *but* disciplined, so the emotional level went much deeper.



9/11/01. History in the making in New York City.

Ai Ai de las Alas plays mother of 12 in new comedy film

By Edmund L. Sicam

AFTER 13 years in the business, comedienne Ai Ai de las Alas is finally playing the lead in a movie. Its working title is "Tanging Ina," and we caught up with the comedy star on her first shooting day at a public market in La Loma, Quezon City. The first scene she shot had her looking for a job. "*Pinadala ako ng* hollow block! *Tawa ako ng tawa*, first day *ko, pinadala ako ng* hollow block! *Anim pa!*"

Bad luck

The story is about a mother who will do all sorts of jobs because she has 12 children (by three different fathers) to raise. She has the bad luck of having her husbands die on her everytime she's sired four children. "*Nagagalit ako sa mga doktor pag kambal, kasi malas ako pag apat na ang anak ko!*"

Another twist is that all of her husbands are good-looking. Ai Ai quips, "*Lahat guapo, walang pangit! Kasi lahat ng anak ko, guapo at maganda.*" Not all the husbands have been cast yet, but Aga Muhlach is sure to play one of them. "*Yun kasi* personal *kong kinausap, sabi ko*, Aga, first film ko ito . . . *lambing naman.*"

But, how is it explained in the script that someone like Aga can fall for someone like Ai Ai? "Ahh . . . *mga* three days *hindi natulog yung* scriptwriter."

Aside from the plot twists, how is this comedy different from her other comedies? "*Siyempre, tungkol sa* family, *at siyempre, ako bida. Para maiba naman. Parati akong* support. *Ibang klaseng* comedy *ito, e. Nanay akong mabait talaga.*"

How does it feel to have her first solo movie in 13 years? "*Nakaka*-tense. *Ngayon pa lang, nagno-novena na ako. Ang totoo, parang naniniwala na talaga ako, ang pag-aartista, bigay ito ng Diyos, hindi ito ginagawa.* In His time, not your time."

Solo movie

Did she hesitate to accept the role of a mother with 12 children? "*Hindi, kasi* dream *ko talaga magkaroon ng* solo movie. *Para masementuhan na ang* career *ko, dahil nagawa ko na yung* major TV shows." This is an historic movie moment of sorts—it's one of the few times in Philippine movie history that the lead is a female comedian.

Would she do everything for her children? "*Oo, siyempre, oo. Lalo na kung wala kang asawa. Alam ko yung* feeling *na wala kang asawa tapos kailangan mong maghanap-buhay.*"

So, does she still feel the need for one? "*Asawa? Di na. Gastos lang yan. Kasi parati yung nakukuha ko, ako yung nagme*-maintain." So, try someone rich, for a change? "*Ang hirap ng mayamang lalake, lalo na may anak na ako. Lalo na pag Pinoy. Kung* foreigner..." Ai Ai thinks for awhile. "*Ayoko ng* foreigner, *masarap pa rin ang Pinoy. Unang-una, may* language barrier *pag* foreigner."

Why, can't Ai Ai speak English? "*Marunong pero pag mabilis na ayoko na. Nahihilo ako, kailangan dahan dahan lang.*" So, is she swearing off marriage forever? "*Ayoko na. Siguro pag wala na ako sa* show biz."

DE LAS ALAS. First title role.

Edward Burns romances Angelina Jolie in 'Life, or Something Like It'

WHAT do Clint Eastwood, Robert Redford, Kevin Costner, Woody Allen and Edward Burns have in common? They all have the rare ability to direct and act in films.

Burns may be the youngest of the so-called Hollywood "hyphenates" (as in actor-director), but surely his credentials are not lacking in achievements, having directed gems like "The Brothers McMullen" and acted to much acclaim in "Saving Private Ryan" and "Fifteen Minutes."

Wisecracks

These days, Burns is busier in the acting department. He'll soon be seen exchanging wisecracks and locking lips with Angelia Jolie in Twentieth Century Fox's new romantic comedy, "Life, or Something Like It," the delightful story of a TV reporter (Jolie) and her cameraman (Burns) whose tempestuous professional relationship unexpectedly blossoms into romance.

Director Stephen Herek chose Burns for the role of Pete, the cameraman, because he is "an actor who projects the ease and comfort of an old-fashioned movie star but also has a caustic, street-smart attitude that I knew would fit perfectly as Lanie's (Jolie) love-hate interest."

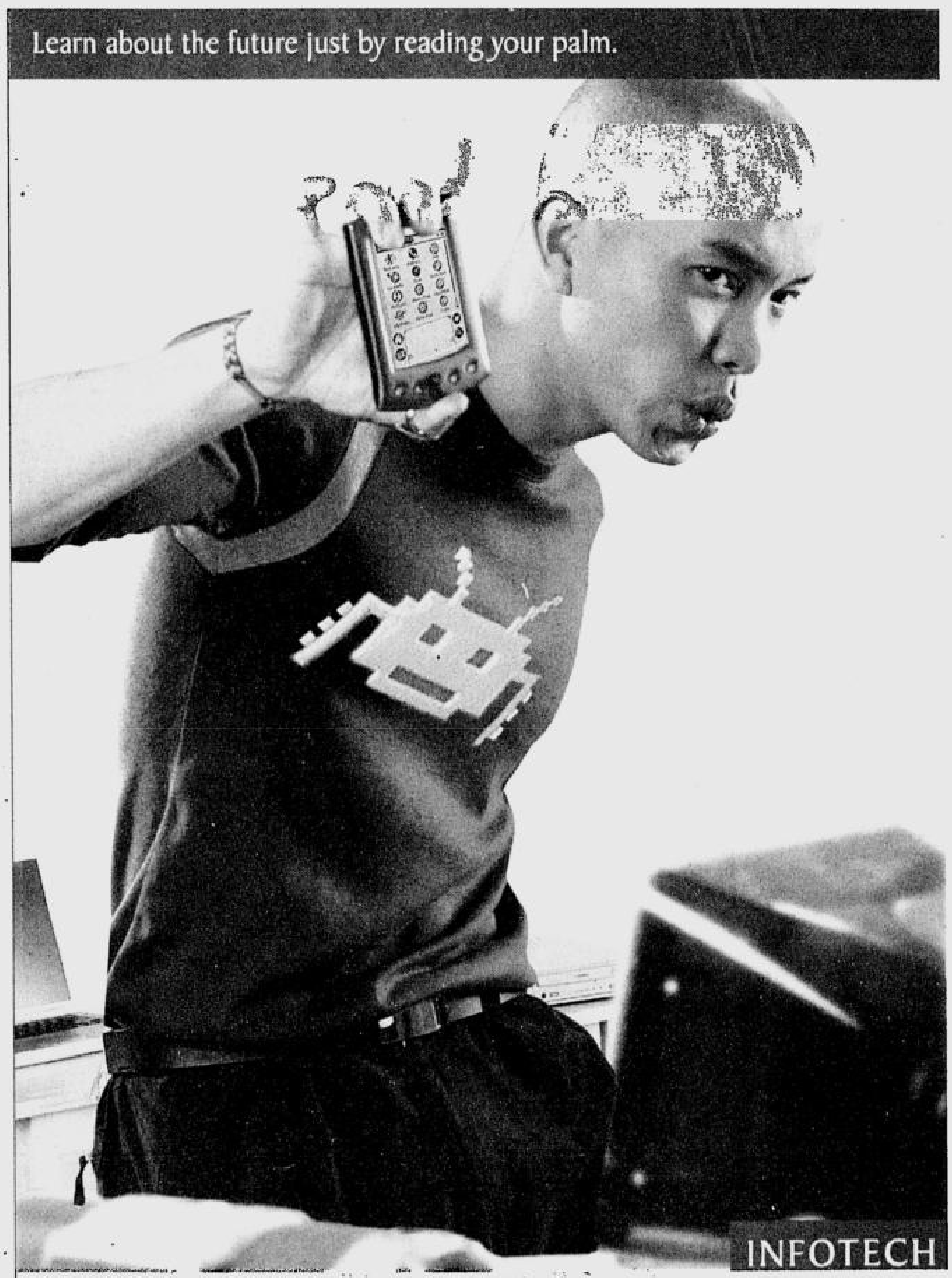
The two roles are clearly opposites. Lanie craves celebrity and success while Pete has shunned loftier ambitions and a successful New York network as a cameraman, electing to relocate to Seattle to be near his ex-wife and young son.

Attitude

Burns explains, "Pete's attitude toward life is different from Lanie's in that he has given up hardcore career aspirations. In the past, he focused on being the best in his field, but now he's got a different set of priorities such as trying to be a good dad to his son."

Coincidentally, Burs had worked on the assignment desk at a news show in New York after graduating from college. Burns offers, "I was first attracted to the script as I am somewhat familiar with the world of local television news. I'm also a big fan of old-style romantic comedies and Steve Herek took a genre that has lost a lot of fun in the last couple of years and he played with it in a fun way."

Burns wrote, directed and starred in the film, which was shot on a budget of only $25,000 and went on to gross over $10 million at the domestic box-office, making it the most profitable film of 1995.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City of Manila honors 12 outstanding artists

By Rica Arevalo

ONE of the highlights of the 431st Foundation Day of the City of Manila was the recognition given to dedicated Filipino artists. Last June 20, Mayor Jose L. Atienza Jr. awarded cash prizes and medallions to 12 artists at the Bulwagang Antonio J. Villegas, Manila City Hall for the annual awarding of "Patnubay ng Sining at Kalinangan."

Dedication

Topping the list is "Diwa ng Lahi" awardee Prof. Andrea Veneracion. Under her direction, the Philippine Madrigal Singers became world champions in choral competitions. Her dedication as choirmaster made the Madrigal Singers popular in the United States, Italy, Spain, France, China and Korea. She was given a P50,000 cash prize.

The Gawad Gatpuno Antonio J. Villegas is given to Virgilio Almario, also known as Rio Alma. Almario is the former executive director of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts. His poetic works include "Makinasyon at Ilang Tula," "Una Kong Milenyum," and "Ang Makata sa Panahon ng Makina." A dedicated teacher, he received P35,000.

For Literature, Pablo Gomez is cited for his more than 100 screenplays for Sampaguita Pictures and FPJ Productions. Among his notable films are "Bubot na Bayabas," "Babaing Makasalanan, Lalaking Salawahan," "Kandilang Bakal," and "Batas ng Lansangan."

Painter Antonio Austria is recognized for his award-winning works on the everyday life of Filipinos.

First place

For the field of music, Alfonso "Coke" Bolipata is the awardee. At the young age of 12, he won first place in the National Music Competition for Young Artists. He put up Casa San Miguel, where he taught music to young students in his native Zambales.

FROM left, Ms Evelina Atienza, Mayor Lito Atienza, Sharon Cuneta-Pangilinan and Atty. Espiridion Laxa.

MANILA Mayor Lito Atienza and Ms Evelina Atienza (center) with (front, from left) Agnes Arellano, Joy Virata, Andrea Veneracion, Sharon Cuneta-Pangilinan, Pablo Gomez, Espiridion Laxa, Edna Vida.(Second row from left) Raul Locsin, Virgilio Almario, Nonoy Marcelo, Santiago Bose, Alfonso Bolipata, and Antonio Austria.

For architecture, Raul R. Locsin is recognized for his contributions to the construction of innovative structures like the Makati Stock Exchange, Ninoy Aquino International Airport, Greenbelt Square, Folk Arts Theater and PICC.

Sculptor Agnes Arellano is known for her plaster pieces like "Temple to the Moon Goddess," "Bosch and the Hollowmen," "Myths of Creation and Destruction Part I," "Myths and Destruction Part II: The Temple of the Sun God," and "Tatlong Budhang Ina." She received the CCP Thirteen Artists Award in 1988.

Joy Virata is the awardee for theater. She has portrayed dramatic, comedic and musical lead roles in over 120 plays.

Ballet production

Edna Vida is the awardee in the field of dance. She was the director of the CCP Dance School and has performed in "Peter Pan," "The Nutcracker," "Alice in Wonderland," "Ang Ibong Adarna" among other ballet productions. She continues to train professional and new dancers.

Sharon Cuneta-Pangilinan is cited for her contribution to cinema. Pangilinan won acting plums for her performances in the films "Hirap at Ginhawa," "Dapat Ka Bang Mahalin?" and "Madrasta." She takes time out to help the Chosen Children Village Foundation and the Action for Children Towards Success non-government organizations.

For the New Art Forms category, the award is given to Santiago Bose. His artworks have been exhibited in Hong Kong, Australia, Canada, Cuba and United States.

A special award was bestowed on cartoonist Nonoy Marcelo, maker of "Ikabod," "Tisoy" and "Aling Otik." His comic strips are humorous and relevant.

The artists were given crowns made of sampaguita flowers and a medallion featuring 14 rays of the sun made by National Artist Napoleon Abueva. Pianist Filmer Flores and Bolipata rendered musical numbers.

Call for donations to a very worthy cause

STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

ARRANGING for a blood donor has led Liz Finlayson, a New Zealander, to the discovery of a laudable project in Antipolo. Liz is my student in Advanced Photography and is the proud mother of three beautiful girls; Sophie, 9, Imogen, 7, and Bella, 3. She is married to Bob, an economist for private sector development at ADB. She grew up in Palmerston North, New Zealand and worked as an emergency department nurse in 1987 in London and Bath, England for two years.

Assignment

Back in New Zealand, Liz married Bob and moved from Auckland, Hobart, Tasmania, and Melbourne in Australia. They lived in London for 4½ years prior to Bob's assignment in the Philippines. While here, Liz is involved in securing blood donations for the Australia and New Zealand Association (ANZA). She also takes photographs of people, especially children, and nature.

Two days ago, Liz told me the story of Dennis Gunderson. Dennis and his wife, Jeri Gunderson arrived in Manila from the USA as missionaries. They have a friend named Diane Tegaue who assisted in delivering babies in Antipolo. Jeri started to help Diane in delivering babies. At that time, Dennis and Jeri's daughter Deborah was still a teenager. Because of this activity, a birthing home, Shiphrah Bahay Paanakan, opened in 1989 as a center providing ante-natal care and education. It provides women in Antipolo with dignified and safe care during and after birth.

Babies

In 1991, a temporary childcare home was put up in response to the growing number of babies born of mothers who were unable to care for them. It is a tremendous dilemma for some mothers to give up their babies, but for their safety and future, they leave them at the "home."

Deborah, after training in Mexico, Central America, returned to Manila in 1994 and became the co-director of Shiphrah Bahay Paanakan along with her mother Jeri, who acquired a Masters Degree in Community Development. Jeri's knowledge provided the core in developing the ante-natal education in the home.

The home has 26 children aged 2 months to 9 years old and is called The Little Children's Home, with Dennis Gunderson as its director. Requests for adoption usually come from abroad.

Liz Finlayson sadly narrates that Dennis recently became very ill, and was diagnosed with a muscle-eating infection. For the past three weeks, he has undergone 10 surgical operations to clean and debride the deep and wide wound on his back. He has blood transfusions frequently. He also requires a very expensive daily immune booster injection.

Serious condition

Dennis' serious condition has put their community under great financial stress. As an NGO, they rely entirely on donations. The home receives donations from the American Women's Club of the Philippines, United States Embassy Group, Canadian Women's Group, and churches in the United States and elsewhere.

Everybody is concerned about the future of these homes. And so, they are appealing to Good Samaritans for donations. Please contact Deborah Gunderson-Gustafson at tel. no. 658-4231 or deposit cash donations to the Help International Ministries, Inc., savings account no. 6363 0670 91 at the BPI Family Bank in Taytay Ortigas Branch, Ortigas Avenue Extension, Taytay, Rizal.

Thanks to Good Samaritans who have donated to the SSPE Children Care Foundation Inc: P10,000 deposited at the BPI Caloocan Branch; P20,000 deposited at the BPI Shangrila Branch. Thanks too to Mike Enriquez, Joy Marcelo, Bombi Ignacio and Dennis Baladad for the investigative segment on "Imbestigador" on the dreadful disease of measles or SSPE (Subacute Schlerosing Pancephalitis), the late complication of measles. It will be shown on GMA-7, 6:30 p.m. today.

* * *

E-mail me at mn_photocom@i-manila.com.ph or call at 522-1905, 522-5185 to 89 or CF (0916) 476-6613.

PHOTOS taken by Liz Finlayson at the Little Children's Home in Antipolo; L-R: a lady staffer nursing the babies; the Gundersons at the Ortigas Medical City (L-R, daughter Deborah G. Gustafson with her son Aubrey, Dennis and wife Jeri), and a girl at the home.

YOUR WEEKLY TV GUIDE FROM JUNE 29 - JULY 5

CH	2	4	5	7	9	13	23	29	31
[illegible]	5:30 Magandang Gabi, Bayan 7:00 Smart Ka Na Ba? 7:30 Arriba, Arriba 8:30 Mary d' Potter 9:30 Klasmeyts 10:30 Sapul Kayo Dyan 11:00 "F" 11:30 Sports Unlimited	3:00 Value Vision 6:00 MBA 11:00 Business and Leisure	6:30 Wing Commander 7:00 Sailormoon Sailor Stars 7:30 Wheel of Fortune 8:00 Celebrity Family Feud 8:30 Wow Mali! 9:30 Saturday Night	5:30 Hunter X Hunter 6:00 Imbestigador 7:00 Idol Ko Si Kap 8:00 Kakabakaba 9:00 Pinoy Blockbuster 11:00 Master Showman	6:00 Entertainment Tonite 6:30 Hot Ticket 7:00 Largo 8:00 7 Days 9:00 Saturday Night Playhouse *Star Olympics Part II*	8:00 Star For A Night 9:00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 10:00 Viva Box Office 11.00 IBC Elorde	6:00 Travel Time 6:30 Digital Tour 7:00 Explorer 7:30 Early Edition 8:30 Gilmore Girls 9:30 Studio 23 Presents	7:00 Xclusive Cinema Special 9:00 Oras Ng Katotohanan 9:30 Armor of God 10:00 Oh Tokyo 11:00 Pinoy Wrestling	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! Coming Attractions 7:00 Women of . . . *Action* 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story *Anthony Perkins* 10:00 David Letterman 11.00 Celebrity Profile *Brendan Fraser*
[illegible]	5:30 Sharon 7:00 Wansapanataym 8:30 Home Along Da Riles 9:30 Sunday Family Cinemas 11:30 Off The Record 12.00 The Weekend News	6:00 Fox News 9:00 NBA 11:30 Unlimited Diving	6:00 Zorro 6:30 Guyferd 7:00 Price Is Right 8:00 Sing-Galing 9.00 The Big Night 11:00 Fashion TV	5:30 Partners Mel & Jay 7:00 KI 8:00 Daddy Di Do Du 9:00 Sunday Night Box Office 11:00 Cha-Cha Lazaro Presents	6:00 Entertainment This Weekend 7.00 Ripley's Believe It or Not 8:00 Match TV 9:00 Sunday's Big Event	4:00 PBA Game 1 6:00 PBA Game 2 8:00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9.00 Sinemaks	6:00 Rugrats 6:30 Starship Troopers 7:00 Batman Beyond 7:30 Futurama 8:00 Grosse Pointe 8:30 Veronica's Closet 9:00 Will & Grace 9:30 Temptation Island 10:30 Twilight Zone	7:00 Sunday Mini-Series 8:00 Oh Tokyo 9:00 Sunday Night movies	6.00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! Coming Attractions 7:00 E! Original Special 8:00 Rank *20 Funniest Movies of All Times* 9:00 Revealed w/ Jules Asner *Anne Heche* 10:00 E! Goes to War *Manila Calling*
[illegible]	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Game K N B? 7:30 Pangako sa 'Yo 8:00 Sa Puso ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 9:00 FPJ Action Cinema 10:30 Headlines 11.00 The Correpondents	4:00 PBL 6:00 Fox News 8:00 TeleDyaryo 10:00 PBL	6:00 Balitang-Balital 6:30 F 7:00 Mahha Go Go Go 7:30 Wheel of Fortune 8:00 Family Feud 8:30 Poltergeist: The Legacy 9:30 Trabaho Lang 10:00 The Big News	6:00 Saksi 6:30 Marimar 7:00 Monica Brava 7:30 Sana Ay Ikaw Na Nga 8:00 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:30 Kung Mawawala Ka 9:00 GMA's Best 10:30 Front Page	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 World's Most Amazing Videos 8:00 Jag 9:00 24 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Entertainment tonight 11:00 Sex & The City	6.00 Viva's Hot Hits! 8:00 Crayon Shin Chan 8:30 Kurochan 9:00 The Weakest Link 10:00 Carita de Angel 10:30 Por Un Beso 11.00 News	5:30 Beat UK 6.30 Jenny Jones 7:30 Hidden Camera 8.00 Dark Angel 9.00 Charmed 10.00 News Central 10:30 Points of View	6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8.00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! News Live 7:00 Celebrity Adventures 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story 9.00 E! News Live 9:30 Talk Soup 10.00 Best of Late Show 11.00 Wild On
[illegible]	6.00 TV Patrol 7:00 Game K N B? 7:30 Pangako sa 'Yo 8:00 Sa Puso ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 9:00 OK Fine! Whatever 10:30 Headlines 11:00 Pipol	4:00 Value Vision 6.00 Fox News 8:00 TeleDyaryo 10:00 Pulsong Masa 11:00 Auto Focus	6:00 Balitang-Balital 6:30 Dragon League 7:00 2 Years Vacation w/ Dinosaurs 7:30 Wheel of Fortune 8:00 Family Feud 8:30 E.R. 9:30 Urban Doktor 10:00 The Big News	6.00 Saksi 6:30 Marimar 7.00 Monica Brava 7:30 Sana Ay Ikaw Na Nga 8.00 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:30 Kung Mawawala Ka 9:00 Kool Ka Lang 10:30 Front Page 11:00 Probe Team	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7.00 Ed 8.00 Ally McBeal 9:00 The Practice 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Entertainment tonight 11.00 NBI Files	6:00 PBA Games 8:00 PBA Games 10:00 The Weakest Link 11:00 News	5:30 Beat UK 6:30 Jenny Jones 7:30 Popular 8:30 Angel 9:00 Just Shoot Me 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah	6.30 Q Showcase 7.30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8.00 Ang Dating Daan	6.00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! News Live 7:00 Extreme Close Up 7:30 Mysteries & Scandals 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story 9:00 E! News Live 9:30 Talk Soup 10:00 David Letterman 11.00 Wild On
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Travolta gets Qantas wings, sets goodwill tour

LOS ANGELES—Self-professed "airline geek" and actor John Travolta on Monday earned a new pair of wings as a first officer for Qantas Airways and unveiled a world tour to promote air travel that has weakened since Sept. 11.

Pilot

Travolta, an avid pilot and Oscar-nominated star of movies from "Saturday Night Fever" to "Pulp Fiction," trained with Qantas and on 747 simulators at Boeing Co. in Seattle and was now officially "Ambassador-at-large" for the Australian airline.

Shortly after Qantas Chief Executive Officer Geoff Dixon pinned the golden wings on Travolta, who was wearing a crisp blue aviator's uniform, the actor called the moment "one of the proudest days of my life." "Without crying here, I would say it's at least alongside the two Oscar nominations I've received in my career. It's right up there with that," Travolta told reporters.

TRAVOLTA. Describes himself as an airline geek.

Travolta, 48, said as far back as when he was 4 years old, he wanted his own pilot's uniform. He began taking flying lessons at age 16 and earned his jet pilot's license in 1981.

Since then, he has logged 5,000 hours of flying time.

"Besides my serious attitude toward flying, I have to admit something to all of you, I am an airline geek," Travolta said.

He has a son named Jett, and joked that he wanted to name his daughter "Qantas," but wife Kelly Preston wouldn't allow it.

New plans

Travolta said his new plans stem from a tour he took to Australia last summer to promote his action thriller, "Swordfish." Travolta owns a vintage Boeing 707 that was first flown by Qantas, and when he arrived in Australia in the plane, he said, it caused quite a stir. He asked to meet with Dixon and told him if Qantas would return his 1960s plane to its original colors, he would fly around the world to promote the airline.

The movie promotion took place shortly before the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

After the attacks, he and Dixon decided to broaden the scope of his promise to promote not just Qantas, but the airline industry and flying, in general, Travolta said.

"Personally, I can't think of a better ambassador for Qantas than John," Dixon said.

So, in his freshly painted 707 dubbed the "Jett Clipper Ella," on July 1, Travolta will take to the air from Los Angeles and head to Auckland, New Zealand to begin the 10-nation "Spirit of Friendship" tour.

Other destinations will include Sydney, Melbourne and Perth in Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Tokyo, London, Rome, Paris, Frankfurt and New York. *Reuters*

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Introducing your newest Celebrity Pals-VJs Derek Ramsay and Amanda Griffin! Find out what's happening with your fave VJs in the coolest virtual game service! Know more about their faves, their career and even their off-camera lives. The more you know about them, the closer you will be with them. Who knows? You could just bring your relationship from friendship to best friends or even boy/girl friend! Hit it off with your virtual friends only with SMART Celebrity Pals!

MECHANICS:

- The game has six different levels of friendship:
  - Level 1 - Acquaintance
  - Level 2 - Friends
    Then you decide whether to be your Celebrity Pal's best friend or dating companion. You will be prompted to make a choice.
    Ex. You are ready to go on to the next level. It's time to decide whether you want to be 1)Good Friends or 2)Dating Companions. Type CHOICE <number> and send to 250.
    If you want to be a BEST FRIEND, the levels you must pass through are:
  - Level 3 - Good Friends
  - Level 4 - Best Friends
    If you want to be a BOY/GIRL FRIEND, the levels you must pass through are:
  - Level 5 - Dating
  - Level 6 - Boy/Girl Friend
- To move to the next level, you must accumulate points. Earn points by:
  1) Correctly answering a question about Derek/Amanda
  2) Giving gifts to Derek/Amanda
  3) Going places with Derek/Amanda
  4) Sending favorable messages to Derek/Amanda
  5) Checking the status of your relationship with Derek/Amanda
  6) Downloading a logo or picture message of Derek/Amanda
  7) Correctly answering the bonus question
- Earn as many points as you can to get to the highest level.

In cooperation with:

To...	Key in...
Choose a celebrity pal	**PICK <Derek** or **Amanda>** and send to **250**
Answer a trivia question	**CHOICE** <letter of your answer> and send to **250**
Know points generated and present level	**STATUS** and send to **250**
To get an operator logo for the present level	**STATUS O** and send to **250**
Get a picture message and note from your pal	**STATUS P** and send to **250**
Give an item to your pal	**GIVE** <item> and send to **250**
Go to a place with your pal	**GO** <place> and send to **250**
Send a message to your pal	**SEND** <message> and send to **250**
Get help	**HELP** and send to **250**
Get game rules and info	**HELP GAME** and send to **250**

All information requests sent will be charged ₱2.50 each. Downloading of logos and picture messages will be charged ₱12.00 each.

For questions, comments, or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, send a text message to 888 (₱1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

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SATURDAY
Special

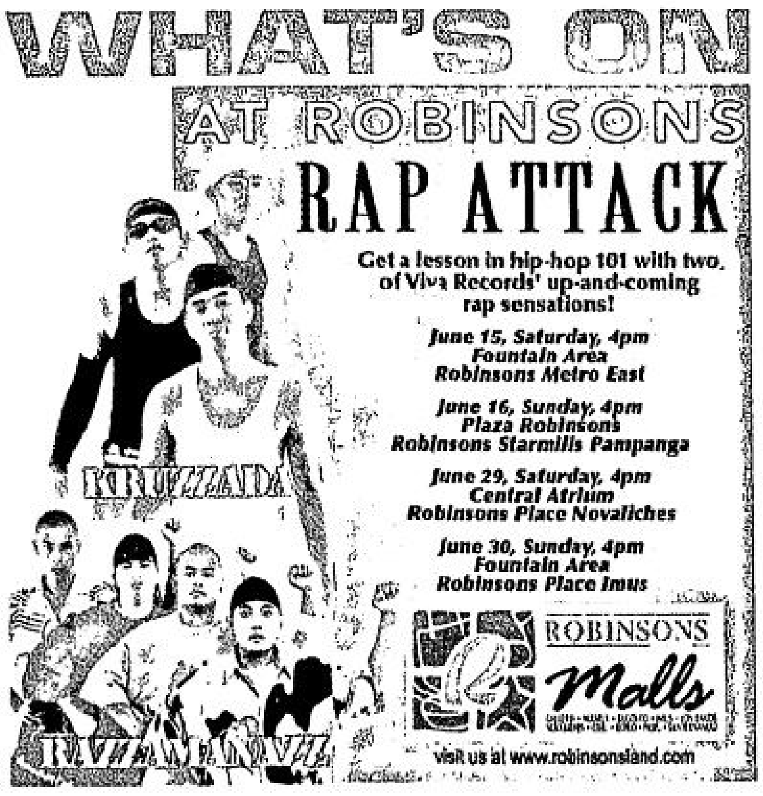
Goodness is its own reward

By Nestor U. Torre

WINFREY. Most influential woman on TV.

OPRAH Winfrey has been hailed as the most influential woman working on television today, and with reason. Her long-running weekday show is watched by millions of viewers, despite its relative lack of "commercial" features like gossip, controversy, scandal, violence and explotative topics and treatment.

GOODNESS/ p. D2



WHAT'S ON AT ROBINSONS
RAP ATTACK
Get a lesson in hip-hop 101 with two of Viva Records' up-and-coming rap sensations!

June 15, Saturday, 4pm
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Robinsons Metro East

June 16, Sunday, 4pm
Plaza Robinsons
Robinsons Starmills Pampanga

June 29, Saturday, 4pm
Central Atrium
Robinsons Place Novaliches

June 30, Sunday, 4pm
Fountain Area
Robinsons Place Imus

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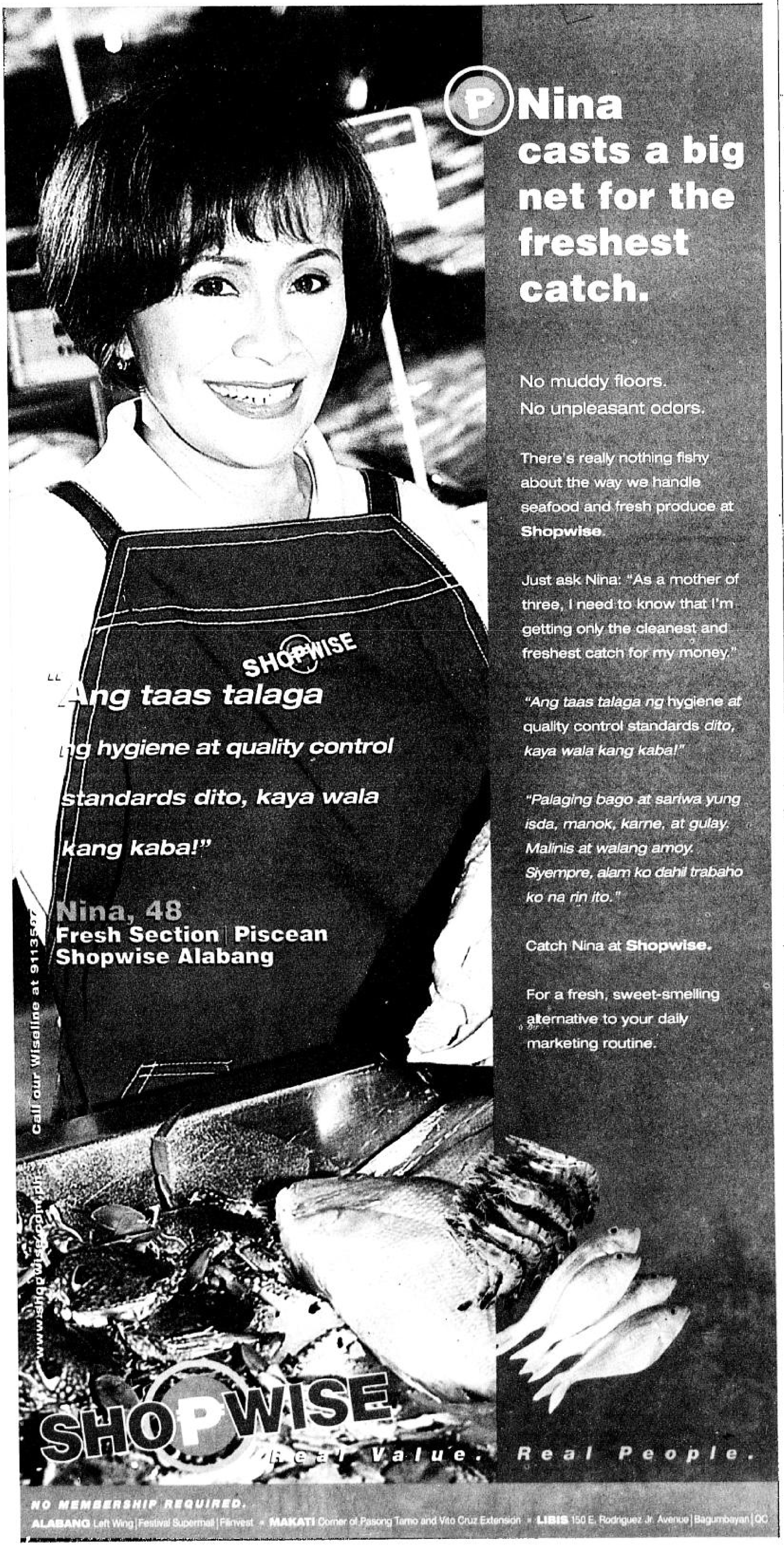

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Catch Nina at **Shopwise.**

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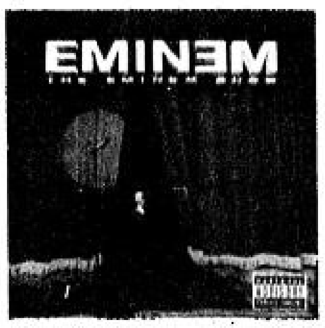
Fever / Kylie Minogue
In Your Eyes
Keyword: inureyes



Eminem Show / Eminem
Cleanin Out My Closet Keyword: mycloset
Without Me Keyword: withoutme

We Invented The Remix / P. Diddy & Bad Boy
I Need A Girl (Part 1)
Keyword: needagirl

Best Of Me / David Foster
You'll See by Madonna
Keyword: ulsee

The Broadway Concert / Lea Salonga
Don't Cry For Me Argentina
Keyword: argentina

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By Nestor U. Torre

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GOODNESS/ p. D2

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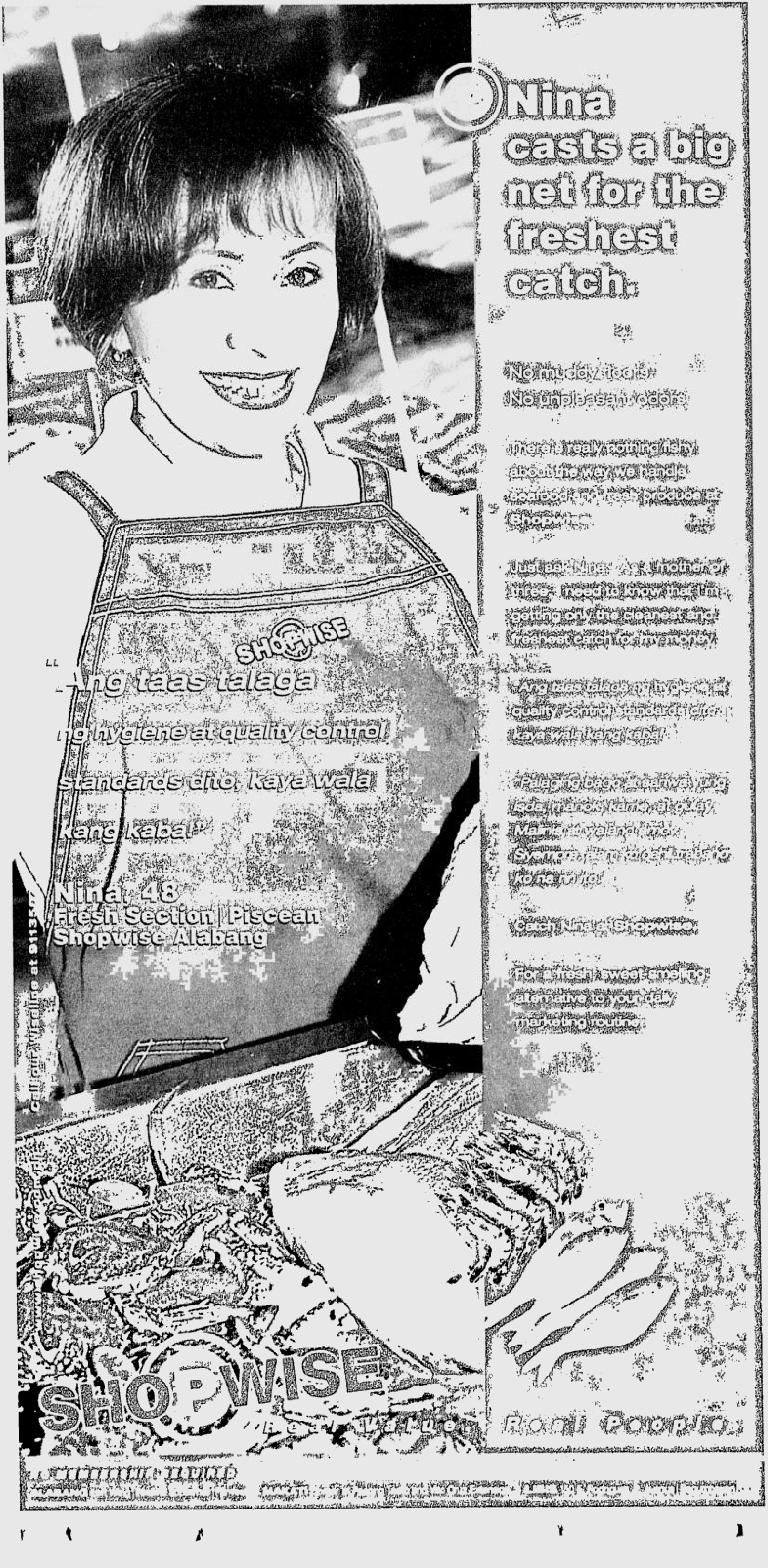

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"Ang taas talaga ng hygiene at quality control standards dito, kaya wala kang kaba!

"Palaging bago ang mga isda, manok, karne, at gulay. Malinis at walang [illegible] Sa Shopwise [illegible] ko na [illegible]"

Catch Nina at Shopwise.

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Simply smash hits

Fever / Kylie Minogue
In Your Eyes
Keyword: inureyes

Eminem Show / Eminem
Cleanin Out My Closet Keyword: mycloset
Without Me Keyword: witho

We Invented The Remix / P. Diddy & Bad Boy
I Need A Girl (Part 1)
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You'll See by Madonna
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Keyword: argentina

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To register, key in MUSIC and send to 2⁰⁹.
To download a ringtone, key in TONE <keyword> and send to 4

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Repeats edge out 'reality' in US TV ratings

By Steve Gorman

LOS ANGELES—Repeats of TV hits like "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" and "Everybody Loves Raymond" ruled the US household ratings chart for the first week of summer without prime-time sports as CBS broke NBC's seven-week hold on overall viewership.

Reruns

The major networks' summertime "reality" offerings mostly took a backseat to reruns of their biggest dramas, sitcoms and news magazines in terms of total viewers for the week ended June 23, according to ratings issued on Tuesday by Nielsen Media Research.

But two new reality shows, the Fox network's "American Idol" and the premiere of NBC's stunt-oriented "Dog Eat Dog," led the race for the key demographic of adults aged 18 to 49, the viewer group most prized by advertisers.

The Tuesday and Wednesday editions of "American Idol," a nationwide pop music talent search show with an edge, ranked Nos. 1 and 2 in the 18-49 demographic, with "Dog Eat Dog" and the CBS crime drama "CSI" tied for third.

Top five

CBS had the four highest-rated shows overall with repeats of "CSI," comedy hit "Everybody Loves Raymond," news magazine "48 Hours" and the comedy "Becker." A rerun of NBC's "Law & Order" drama rounded out the top five in household ratings, while two spinoffs, "Special Victims Unit" and "Criminal Intent," ranked seventh and 15th overall.

Only two reality shows made the top 20 for household ratings—"Dog Eat Dog" at No. 13 and Tuesday's "American Idol" at 15.

The dominance of CBS programs propelled the Viacom Inc.-owned network past NBC in household ratings and total viewers, ending a seven-week winning streak by NBC by those two measures.

CBS averaged a 6.0 rating and 8.5 million viewers for the week, compared with a 5.1 rating and 7.3 million viewers for NBC, a unit of General Electric Co. It marked the first week of summer programming without sports figuring in the ratings race.

Healthy boost

NBC had been enjoying a healthy boost from prime-time telecasts of National Basketball Association playoffs, with Game 4 of the NBA Finals topping the ratings chart the week before last. NBC also benefited from a 98-minute primetime overrun for golf's US Open last Sunday.

Even without basketball, however, NBC remained the No. 1 network for young adults for the latest week, extending its reign over the 18-49 demographic to 13 weeks. Fox, a unit of Fox Filmed Entertainment, was No. 2 among young adults. *Reuters*

"EVERYBODY Loves Raymond" ruled the US household rating chart.

Ricky Davao goes from one TV soap to another

By Remy M. Umerez

COMPETENT actor Ricky Davao may be wanting in film assignments, but he been visible on television via the current fad known as the *teleserye*.

Long before the word *teleserye* was concocted, however, Ricky was already a popular figure on soap operas. Remember "Flordeluna" and "Pamilya Zaragosa?" Or the more recent "Mula Sa Puso," "Pangako Sa 'Yo" and "Munting Paraiso." On that last show, he also directs.

TV exposure

Another source of TV exposure for Ricky was "Okat Tokat!" which dealt with the supernatural. It lasted for five years until re-programming in the ABS-CBN network set in.

DAVAO. So busy that he can't get enough time to sleep.

Now comes "Kay Tagal Kitang Hinintay," the new *teleserye* to hit the boob tube which boasts of a star-studded cast that includes Lorna Tolentino, Edu Manzano, Bing Loyzaga, John Estrada, Bernard Palanca, Johnny Delgado and young stars John Lloyd Cruz, Rica Peralejo and Bea Alonzo. It is jointly directed by Olive Lamasan and Laurenti Dyogi and will air in July.

As expected, there is a twist in the character that Ricky Davao is portraying in "Kay Tagal Kitang Hinintay."

Heir

He plays Francis, the heir to the Ventaspejo riches who is an ever-obedient and submissive son. Having sworn himself to the priesthood, he is torn between serving God and pursuing his love for Lorrea, a poor worker in their hacienda.

"What can I say about the project? It is huge, it is like making a spectacular movie. My role is interesting because Francis is full of contradictions. The other consideration is because I am working with a company of professionals.

"As for *direk* Olive, I have always admired her skill and I feel honored *na pinili niya ako* for the role. There is no star treatment with Olive because all of us were required to undergo an acting workshop to familiarize ourselves with our respective roles."

He jokes that, in terms of wardrobe, he feels left behind.

"Since I play a priest, I just have to be happy wearing the same old, white shirt scene after scene, while the rest of the rich characters are dressed to the nines. I had my suit parade, though, in the Tony Banks role I did in 'Pangako Sa 'Yo,'" he says.

Ricky tapes three times a week, starting at 7 in the morning until 5 the following day. One adjustment he has to make is coping with lack of sleep. It becomes a problem when, on the day he is supposed to rest, another acting assignment comes along.

But the pay is worthwhile, he points out. "One *teleserye* is equivalent to one movie a month. Good for you if the character you are playing lasts for more than a year. Beforehand, they inform you about your character's longevity on the show."

Instant feedback

"One of the joys of appearing in a *teleserye* is that you get instant feedback from viewers. You rejoice when they greet you by the name of the character you portray in the show. They also express their hatred if you project meanness," he observes.

Ricky can't think of any role he hasn't played yet on film and television. Even the role of a transvestite, Ricky succeeded in essaying in an episode of "Maala-ala Mo Kaya."

The only thing he hasn't done, he says, is play an 18-year-old similar to what Barbra Streisand did in "Yentl."

Goodness is its own reward

From p. D1

Thus, Oprah is not just popular but also a trend-setter in ridding the TV scene of the negative stuff that has made it a wasteland in the eyes of many. Oprah's program is no garbage heap, it is a rich, unpolluted land where the spirit blooms and viewers learn how to become the best people they can be.

Top ratings

It was not always so. There was a time when Oprah had to compete for top ratings with less principled shows, and therefore had to try to match them in terms of eye-catching programming for the least common denominator of viewer.

One fine day, however, she decided that she'd had enough of that exhausting rat race for ratings. In fact, she had been on TV long enough and felt that she didn't have to stay on the tube anymore because she had already done enough good stuff on it.

The only way that she would stay on would be if she could be given the freedom to go beyond the small-minded, ratings-fixated mentality, and tackle only the topics she felt were worthwhile sharing with her millions of viewers.

This was considered "suicidal" on TV, so Oprah's rivals prepared to "mourn" her self-inflicted demise. But, wonder of wonders, Oprah got the freedom she wanted from channel bosses.

Even more astoundingly, her viewers supported her decision not to talk down to them, and instead deal with topics that required them to rise up to a higher level.

In honoring the best that her viewers could be by moving beyond the regulation TV eye candy, Oprah became even more successful than she'd ever been.

This flies in the face of the cynical notion popular on the TV scene, that viewers are basically dumb and shallow, and should be given, not what they need, but the silly and exploitative "entertainment" that they oh, so sappily want.

Topics

Thus, when you watch "Oprah" these days, the program regales you not with entertaining fluff, but with life-enhancing topics like better self-image, enhanced parent-child relationships, improved earning potential, better study habits, renewed interest in reading and the arts, etc.

Not very entertaining, right? But the viewers don't mind. They find themselves having a thoroughly good time getting inspired by the show, its hosts and her guests, to improve their own lives and prospects.

This is downright revolutionary because it contradicts the general belief that viewers switch on the TV set to escape, not to be challenged to better themselves. But Oprah's success has proven that there are more than enough viewers out there who are willing, even eager to go beyond diversion and escapism, to get inspired and motivated to become better and more caring people.

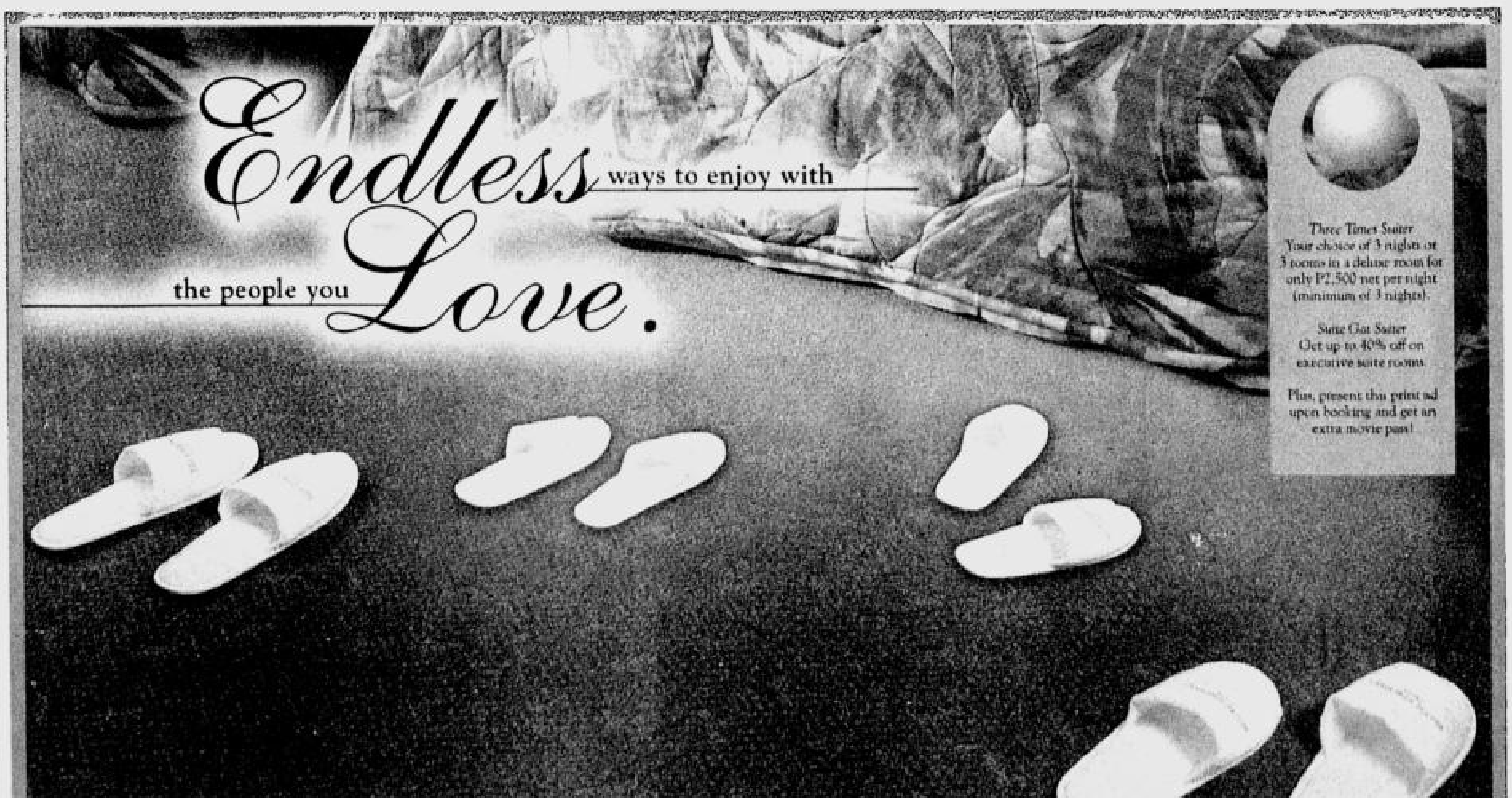
Empowering

Which is not to say that Oprah and her guests lecture to their viewers with schoolmarmy strictness. Their approach is so warm and empowering that viewers have themselves a whale of a good time, finding inspiration and learning more with the show's delightful and substantial entertainment.

To reward her viewers for being so involved in the show, Oprah gifts them with generous giveaways, usually the new products that are discussed on the program. Some of the giveaways are so pricey that the members of the studio audience feel like it's Christmas on the show, everyday of the year!

But the best gift of all is Oprah's respect for her audience, and her faith in their ability to improve their life prospects with the help of her guests. They harken to her subliminal message that goodness is its own reward, and in turn gift Oprah and her program with their avid attention and involvement.

May other people working on TV dare to be as pioneering, caring and optimistic—and as enthusiastically rewarded. When will a similarly caring and committed Filipino talent do an Oprah Winfrey on the local TV scene?



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Amusing compilation of complaints by a cantankerous commentator

By Leia Torre

"AND More By Andy Rooney" is a collection of short essays on various aspects of life and living by "America's Everyman." The essays comprising this book were culled from Rooney's syndicated newspaper columns.

Fault

The book starts being funny as early as on the copyright page, where the author has included a double-edged acknowledgement that goes like this: "Jane Bradford and Neil Nyren helped with the editing of this book and the things wrong with it are partly their fault." From this statement, readers get a general idea about how the rest of the book will be like.

Andy Rooney is best known for his amusing commentaries on the CBS program "60 Minutes." Aside from his books on humor, he has also collaborated on two books regarding his experiences in World War II. One was a history of the military newspaper "Stars and Stripes," and the other one was titled "Air Gunner."

The title is apt because military journalists did their share of fighting during the war. Other Stars and Stripes correspondents besides Rooney flew as well. One flew 20 aerial sorties and another died on a mission. Much more recently, Rooney wrote a book on his experiences called "My War."

Andy Rooney first came into distinction in 1943, when he flew with the Eighth Air Force on the first American bombing raid on Germany. His war reports at the age of 24 brought him early recognition, and to this day, he remains of that war's more lucid voices.

Television

After WWII, Rooney bounced around as a writer for a while, but his civilian writing career didn't take off until he started writing for television. He joined CBS News and began working with journalism legends Harry Reasoner, Arthur Godfrey and Mike Wallace.

The next thing he knew, his tenure on "60 Minutes" had started and he was considered a veritable institution, for better or worse.

It therefore comes as a surprise to learn that what can be considered as this cantankerous commentator's best work is that which he has done off-screen. If you take the time to read his books, you can see why people liked him on TV in the first place. He is very observant, accurate, and extremely funny. He is not one of those pretentious types one finds on television. It makes for a refreshing change.

Rooney has also been reprimanded for several unfeeling remarks with respect to African Americans, Native Americans and homosexuals, and when you come across some examples of what he's written ("I believe a lot of things I can't prove. I think homosexuality is wrong, but I wouldn't want to have to explain why"), it's easy to see why.

From the heart

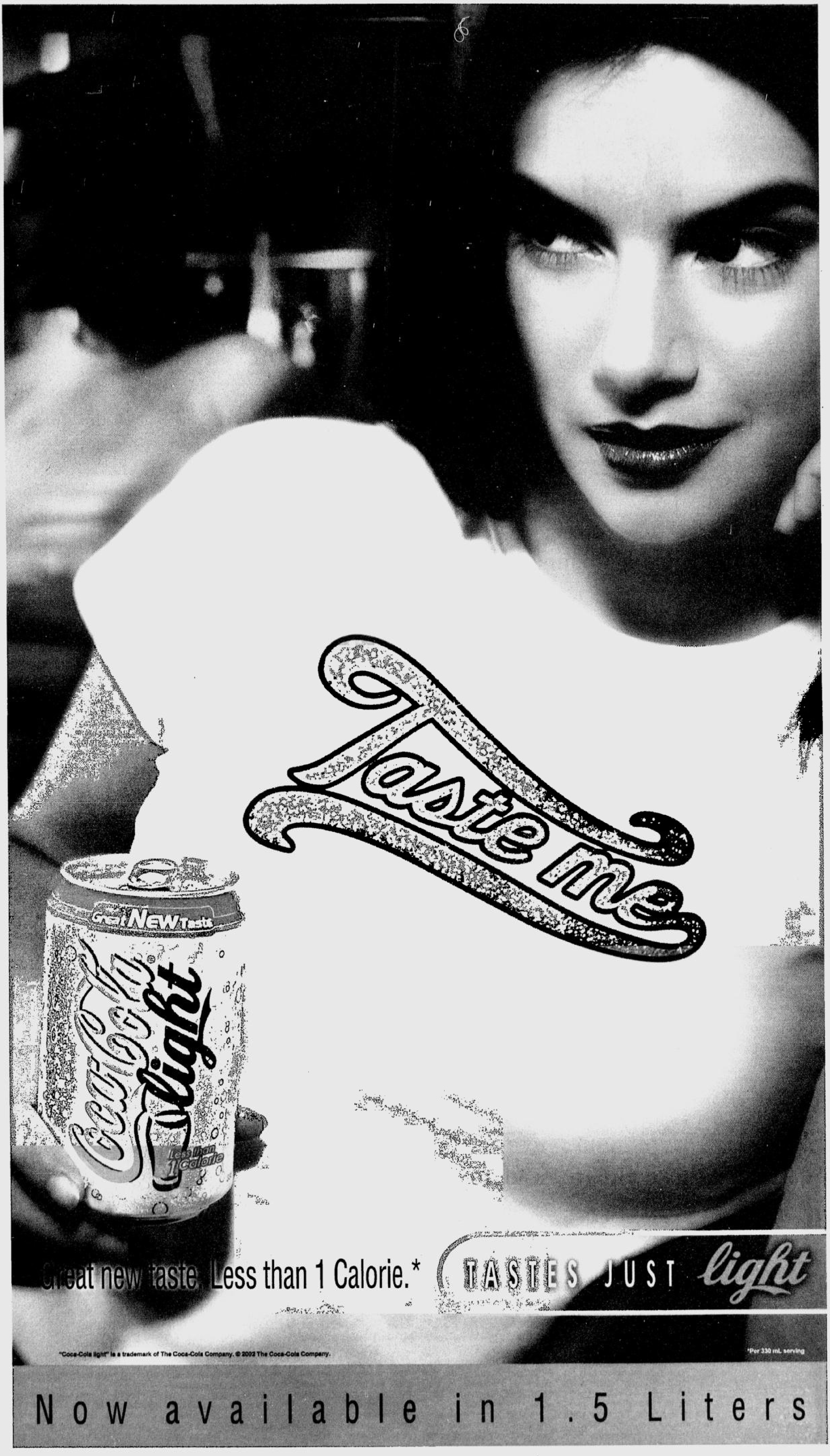
There is nothing however, that Andy Rooney has written that isn't from the heart, whatever the topic is. He holds nothing back, which might not make him especially endearing, but it's that quality that, according to his peers, makes him the perfect columnist.

Rooney is in his 80s but still writes his two columns a week, and still does his five minutes for "60 Seconds" on CBS. He's healthy and has no desire to retire.

Quite a number of his viewers would describe Andy Rooney as "curmudgeonly." If his weekly commentary on "60 Minutes" is anything resembling his essays found in this book, it would be reasonable to assume that he also offends his share of viewers everytime he opens his mouth.

The book is geared towards an American audience, and readers who are not familiar with the American way of life may find it hard to understand some of the details Rooney is referring to. There are a lot of topics, however, that are universal, and he includes quite a number of these in his book.

One has to be open-minded while reading this book. Some people may not care to read about a cranky writer's gripes, but one has to look beyond the complaining tone of the book in order to find the humor in it.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Leslie Uggams sings the blues

By Mark Kennedy

NEW YORK—The other day, Leslie Uggams was on her way to a rehearsal of her new musical, "Thunder Knocking on the Door," when a young man stopped her outside the box office.

"Tell me about this show," he asked, not recognizing the woman in front of him.

"It's about a blues family," Uggams told him.

"The blues?" he said, tentatively.

Fabulous

"You'll just love it," she replied. "It's fabulous."

"You think?" he wondered.

"Yes," she said, turning toward the theater door. "But I'm also in it."

Leslie Uggams can sing. She can dance. She can act. Who knew she can even promote her own stuff?

Add that to the long list of credits she has acquired in a career that began as an adolescent singing with Louis Armstrong.

Along the way there was a Tony Award for "Hallelujah, Baby!" an Emmy Award as host of a variety show, a role on the landmark TV series "Roots," her own TV show, several CDs and a clutch of movies.

Eclectic

"My career is so eclectic," says Uggams, 59. "To each generation, I represent something else."

UGGAMS. "To each generation, I represent something else."

This month, Uggams returns to her roots—Manhattan and the blues—in the Off-Broadway musical "Thunder," written by Keith Glover with music and lyrics by Keb' Mo' and Anderson Edwards.

Set in 1966, Uggams plays the matriarch of an Alabama family forced to confront a mysterious stranger who sweeps into town for a blues "cuttin' contest" in hopes of winning the clan's most prized possession: two guitars.

The musical is infused with mysticism and spirituality, myth and magic. Uggams—together with co-stars Chuck Cooper, Peter Jay Fernandez, Marva Hicks and Michael McElroy—sings tunes that run the gamut of blues styles.

"It's a generation from the past that loves the blues," says Uggams. "It should be rediscovered. You know, shame on us because the blues really has a lot of history. Blues and jazz is our American music."

Over coffee before a recent performance, Uggams surveys her own history—one that has echoed the changes in musical tastes—and laughs at how the landscape in entertainment has changed.

"A lot of my actor friends say, 'You know what? If I ever come back in another life, I'm coming back as an athlete or a rapper—because they get all the acting roles.' When I grew up, actors acted and singers sang and dancers danced."

Radio contests

Uggams began her singing career only a few blocks uptown, winning various radio contests with her voice and vocalizing her way into Harlem's Apollo Theater during its glory days.

"I would stand in the wings and watch every little move and study every little thing and think, 'OK, why is the audience jumping to their feet for this person?' So I'm a sponge and I think that pays off."

She soaked up performances by such stylists as Dinah Washington and Sarah Vaughan. Armstrong became a family friend and Ella Fitzgerald would feed her ice cream, complaining Uggams looked like a string bean.

"Because I was a baby, they took me under their wing," she recalls. "I really didn't realize that I was working with legends."

She made her TV debut at age 6 in an episode of "Beulah," playing Ethel Waters' niece. And her singing was so good as a contestant on "Name That Tune" that she was asked to return as a regular. One night, her rendition of "The Lord's Prayer" was noticed by record producer Mitch Miller, who promptly made her a cast member on his bouncing-ball show, "Sing Along With Mitch" in 1961.

Enormous pressure

Only years later would she learn that Miller had been under enormous pressure by Southern stations to drop Uggams or at least have her sing separately so affiliates could edit her out. Miller refused, leaving the teenage Uggams the only regular black performer on network television at the time.

"People don't understand how he put his show on the line for me," she says. "It's so crazy, but that's the way it was. People don't realize we've come a long way.

"I used to listen to my parents say certain things and I'd go, 'Oh what are they talking about?' They'd look at me and my generation and go, 'You don't understand what we went through.' You look back and kind of go, 'Oh my goodness. Now I understand so much more of what they were trying to tell me of what they had gone through.'

"That's why it was so thrilling when I saw Halle Berry win the Academy Award." *AP*

National Geographic Channel goes treasure hunting

By Nestor U. Torre

OF interest to Asian and specifically Filipino viewers is the National Geographic Channel's special feature on July 15 and 16 (at 9 p.m.), "The Mystery of Yamashita's Gold."

The July 15 telecast focuses on eyewitness accounts by Allied prisoners of war in World War Two, and internees who were directly involved in the Japanese wartime "Golden Lily" operations—the shipment and burial of stolen treasure.

Warehouses

Some of them worked in Japanese warehouses in Kawasaki where they handled hundreds of oil drums full of stolen western currencies. Others helped load freight trains with looted gold in Malaya, Sumatra and Java.

Eyewitnesses watched as 752 boxes of gold bars were loaded onto a fake Japanese hospital ship (the Dutch passenger liner Opten Noort) in Singapore.

The ship carried treasure to Japan in the last days of the war, had more loot put aboard, and was scuttled with the loot off a Japanese harbor. It was furtively salvaged in 1987, when the gold aboard the ship was worth $1.5 billion.

Second episode

On July 16, the saga continues with the second episode titled "The World's Greatest Treasure Hunt." In 1945, departing Japanese troops were alleged to have buried a fortune in looted treasure in the Philippines.

Some believed that the recovered gold was used by the United States to fund schemes across the world over the past half century, but others scoff at this speculative report.

Will the special telecasts on Yamashita's gold detail the numerous attempts to retrieve the treasure, which are well-known to Filipinos? Will the Marcos connection be brought up? Finally, will these NGC telecasts' details dovetail with the Filipino film on Yamashita's treasure shown in last year's Metro Manila Film Festival?

Other programs

Aside from these July 15 and 16 telecasts, NGC will air other programs related to treasure hunting:

At 9 p.m. on July 17, "Nat Geo Max" presents "Diving for Pirate's Gold." The program discusses the process of high-tech treasure hunting in the Caribbean and Massachusetts, and addresses the conflict between archeologists and treasure hunters.

On July 18 at 9 p.m., "Quest for Atocha" spotlights treasure hunter Mel Fisher's 16-year search for sunken riches, which ended in triumph but cost Fisher the lives of his son, daughter-in-law and a crew member when their boat capsized.

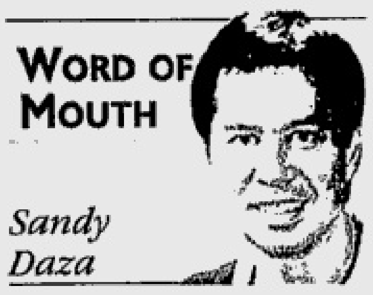
Spanish galleon

In the end, Fisher uncovered the sunken Spanish galleon Nuestra Señora de Atocha, filled with more than 1,000 silver bars, hundreds of pounds of gold bullion, glittering emeralds, gold chains and priceless antique artifacts.

On July 19 at 9 p.m., "Lost Worlds, Treasure Seekers" focuses on antiquarians, archaelogists, connoisseurs and other treasure seekers, people who have traditionally viewed the buried past as a treasure of art and ancient wisdom.

In recent years, however, some of them have gone beyond treasure hunting for commercial reasons, and have been trying to preserve, not plunder, the treasures they've found.

Simple but authentic Italian cooking at Pasto



WORD OF MOUTH

Sandy Daza

ITALIAN cooking is one of the most interesting cuisines in the world. But, unlike Chinese or French, it is so difficult to find a good Italian restaurant. Even abroad, this observation stands.

Endless debate

In one trip to the Northern part of Italy, I experienced only one memorable meal. I must have gone to the wrong restaurants. I know that some friends who choose Italian cuisine above all else will have an endless debate with me about the many fine restaurants in Italy.

In Manila, there are many Italian restaurants. A lot of them have come and gone. I recall only one that I thought was good, the one at the Manila Hotel.

Today, of all the places I have tried, I enjoy Margarita Fores' Cibo. Her cooking is simple, the flavors subtle and the food is consistently good. I love her Paninis. She has one of the most creative culinary minds today—but that's another story.

New place

When a new place comes along, my short list of good Italian restaurants expands. I first heard about Pasto Café and Bar from Marita. Located at the newly-renovated Greenhills theatre area, the place is only a few months old. The dishes offered are nothing fancy. They serve pastas, pizzas and paninis.

I was very impressed with their cooking. I like straightforward dishes, nothing fancy but of course delicious.

We sampled many dishes—Ciociara, Bianca, Salciccia, pollo, pomodoro, gamberetti and frutti di mare. The ones that made an impact were the Gogaza, a fusilli pasta with green peas, asparagus spears and cream.

Assortment

The Bianca was also good. This is made with an assortment of seafood , mozzarella and pesto. Super! The pollo which is a panini was good, too.

I love their pizzas. The crust is thin and not flooded with tomato sauce, which too often clouds the taste of the other ingredients. I suggest you look at the ingredients of the pasta, the pizza and panini and what you imagine will go well with one of the three is what you should order. All three are prepared well.

They also have delicious desserts. The Venezia (not Louie Y's) is a cappuccino and dark chocolate mousse. The Padova is a silky banana mousse folded with sesame nougat bits and covered with chocolate. Super!

Discovery

I went back to Pasto after a few days. What a discovery! So, when I crave for Italian, I now have two to choose from. Pasto Café and Bar is at the Greenhills Theatre mall. Call. Tel. 722 4992 or 722 5006

Happy eating!

ERRATUM: I apologize for an error I made in last week's article about Isabel, the Canadian chef. Her e-mail address is: ysabelcuyugan @hotmail.com. *Patawad.*

Search for those elusive Academy Awards

By Behn Cervantes

(Conclusion)

LOUISE Rainer, once considered equal to la Garbo, won two consecutive awards for "The Great Ziegfeld" in 1936 and "The Good Earth" in 1937. The idealistic Austrian actress soon tired of the stressful Hollywood scene and retired.

Sisters

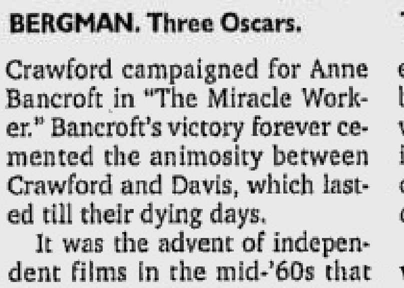
However, she will always be remembered along with the sisters Olivia de Havilland and Joan Fontaine ("Suspicion" and "The Constant Nymph") for having won two Academy Best Actress awards.

Swedish actress Ingrid Bergman got two Oscars for "Gaslight" and "Anastasia," and won a third nod for "Murder on the Orient Express," although for Supporting Actress. Vivien Leigh won statuettes for "Gone With The Wind" in 1940 and "A Streetcar Named Desire" in 1951.

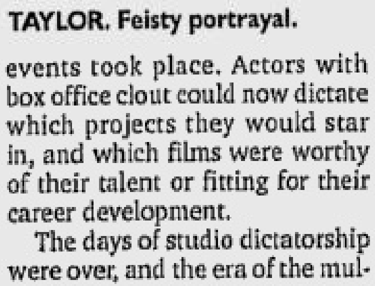
La Elizabeth Taylor unexpectedly brought the trophy home for "Butterfield 8" after a near-death operation, but convincingly won it again for her feisty portrayal in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf" in 1966?

Distinction

The Queen of the Awardees is, of course Katharine Helpburn, who won an unprecedented three Best Actress Awards for "Morning Glory," "Guess Who's Coming To Dinner" and "Lion In Winter." Bette Davis had hoped to match that distinction when she was nominated in 1962 for "What Ever Happened to Baby Jane," but jealous co-star Joan Crawford campaigned for Anne Bancroft in "The Miracle Worker." Bancroft's victory forever cemented the animosity between Crawford and Davis, which lasted till their dying days.



BERGMAN. Three Oscars.



TAYLOR. Feisty portrayal.

It was the advent of independent films in the mid-'60s that prompted important stars to became producers, and a turn of events took place. Actors with box office clout could now dictate which projects they would star in, and which films were worthy of their talent or fitting for their career development.

The days of studio dictatorship were over, and the era of the multi-awarded actors was soon to come.

Conversation with God

FACE TO FACE

Inday Badiday

HI, God! I have several very important things to tell you. First, this is an amazing ride we're having, isn't it? For a while there, I thought I was a goner. Were it not for you, I'm quite sure, I'd have bitten the dust.

Dynamics

Good thing, God, that you're here and I'm holding on to you real tight. Whew! The events of the past weeks most certainly changed the dynamics of our relationship. If, in the past, I relied on myself more than on you, I'm today more convinced than ever that, without you, I'm totally helpless.

God, you truly are awesome. No words can adequately describe or define the extent of your greatness—and no measure of praise from puny, little mortals like me can even just approximate a fraction of the splendor and magnificence of your Godhood.

You truly are the great restorer. As I underwent those critical operations, the only thing that sustained me was the knowledge that you are my God and you love me and you are in control and you will restore me.—And you did!

I remember a story in my childhood about an old man offering to fix a young man's car that conked out in the middle of the freeway. The young man initially refused and even scorned the gall of the old man for suggesting that he could help.

Ignition

He only relented when, after tinkering with his car for many hours, he couldn't make it start. He, therefore, had no choice but to accept the old man's offer of help. The old man dipped his hands deep into the belly of the car and, after several seconds, asked the young man to turn on the ignition. The car revved to life.

The young man was mortified. He asked the old man how he was able to do what he just did. The old man smiled, "I'm Henry Ford. I made that car."

Indeed, as I lay there in the operating room, you were there for me—repairing this tired, old body you made for me. With all their expensive education and training and experience, my surgeons did whatever it was they were supposed to do—but, I know with a certainty that transcends any doubt, that they were all just following orders from you.

God, I'm humbled by the realization that I never really did anything to deserve the love that you always so generously pour upon me, but you never fail to deliver for me. Truth to tell, I have done many horrid things in my lifetime that should have provoked your rage and earned your eternal enmity but, instead, you love me ceaselessly with a love that is so much greater than my biggest sin.

Forgiveness

God, I prostrate myself in front of you as I seek your forgiveness for all my transgressions. I empty myself out to you now, God, and I ask you to fill me with your forgiving grace.

For the times that I wanted things that were of the world and not of you, I am sorry.

For the times that I let go of you because I decided to hold on to me, I am sorry. For the times that I embraced temptation and fraternized with the minions of the evil one, I am sorry. For the times that I wounded you, drove a lance into your side and nails into your hands and feet with my stubbornness and iniquitous ways, I am sorry. For the times that I chose the fleeting happiness of sin over the eternal joy that comes from enthroning you in my life, I am sorry.

You know, God, during those moments that I traversed the line dividing this life and beyond, snapshots from my past flashed in my mind and they most profoundly showed me how grievously I have injured you as they—too, served as solid proof of the limitlessness of your love, mercy and forgiveness.

God, I thank you. My heart is bursting with gratitude for everything you are and all that you have done for me. But more than that, I thank you for loving me not because I deserve it but purely because it is in your nature to love.

Cross

I sold my soul but you bought it back for me with your cross. Thank you. I swam in the muck and filth of sin but you washed me with your blood. Thank you. I mortgaged my life for the prosperity of the world but you redeemed it with your passion and death. Thank you.

God, teach me how to love you back. Show me everyday how to glorify your name. Guide me on what to do and where to go that will be most pleasing to you. Whenever I ignore you, scream at me, God. And if I try to turn away from you once more, create a situation that will make my path lead back to you.

Grant me the grace, God, to accept your will with humility and joy. Take away all shadows of doubt that darken the door of my heart. Turn my anxieties into fuel that will sustain the fire of my faith in you. Blow away my fears and replace them with peace - the kind of peace that springs from the bosom of your divine love.

Surgeon's hand

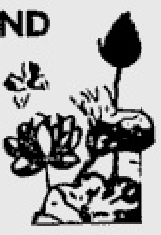
I am now at another major crossroad in my life, God. Take complete control of everything. I know, there on the operating table, the surgeon's hand could have slipped and I could have died. Had that happened, mine would have been a life that, to me, was already full and complete.

But You, God, decided to extend my lease. I know you did that for a reason. That reason is beyond my human capacity to understand but I trust that, as I surrender myself to you, the fullness of your plan will unfold, and everything will be to my best.

Yes, God, use me. Do with me as you please. I am your soldier, you are my commander. I am your servant, you are my master. I am your slave, you are my Lord. Whatever I lack, you supply. Whatever I need, you provide. Whatever I do wrong, you do right.

I just have one little but very fervent wish, dearest God. Please allow me to see my daughter Clara's graduation from college.

Alternative healing options



LOTUS POND

R. Valencia and S. Bismark

(Conclusion)

ISN'T it strange that medicines which have helped terribly sick people get well are being banned? Consider this other story:

Young doctor

Dr. Nicolas Gonzales was then a young doctor sent by Sloan Kettering Hospital to investigate the phenomenal success of Dr. William Kelly in curing thousands of cancer patients. Dr. Kelly is the author of the book "Cancer: Curing the Incurable Without Surgery, Chemotherapy or Radiation" and uses natural healing methods.

Dr. Gonzales wrote a glowing report on the high percentage of successful cures. The hospital saw things differently and instead declared that Dr. Kelly's method did not work. Dr. Gonzales left the Sloan Kettering Hospital and put up his own practice using Kelly's method.

Dr. Kelly himself has this to say: "Cancer is a dreaded disease only to the oncologist and the medical community because they do not know how to cure it. When the body is healthy, it will cure itself. This is natural nutritional healing."

As proof, Dr. Kelly is reported to have 33,000 former cancer patients. Those who would like to study his process may write to this book distributor: New Century Promotions, 3711 Alta Loma Drive, Bonita, California 91902. Interested parties may also avail of his various metabolic supplementations from College Health Stores, 410 Lution Weatherford, Texas 76087.

Pressure

My purpose in writing this article is to give people viable alternatives in seeking cures. Healing need not be terribly traumatic, painful or expensive. Neither do we need to be in the dark about the healing processes our bodies need to go through. Unfortunately, there is often tremendous pressure to blindly surrender to conventional western methods of treatment.

It is best to study your own health and options.

‘Sunshine State’ follows the subtle rhythms of daily life

By Christy Lemire

NEW YORK—"Don't put so much muscle into it," Edie Falco's character tells Timothy Hutton's as they paddle a canoe on a steamy Florida afternoon. "We're not in a hurry."

Same approach

John Sayles took the same approach with "Sunshine State." The writer-director is in no hurry to get anywhere, which gives the movie a convincing, evocative charm.

"Sunshine State" slowly follows the subtle rhythms of daily life in a kitschy coastal town. The pacing is so deliberate, it's definitely not for everyone.

The film defies facile categorization. You can't just package it in one line, like, "Nerdy teen-age boy gets bitten by radioactive spider and turns into unwitting superhero."

It touches on at least a half-dozen topics, including racism and integration, tradition and commercialism, estrangement and reconciliation—some of the same themes Sayles has visited in previous films, including "Passion Fish" and "Lone Star."

Here, he juggles his talented ensemble cast effortlessly—as well as Robert Altman does—moving seamlessly between richly drawn characters, and giving everyone a chance to shine with sparkling dialogue.

Falco—with shaggy hair and no makeup, as far away as humanly possible from Carmela Soprano—plays Marly Temple, whose family has been in fictional Delrona Beach for generations. She grudgingly runs her family's decaying motel and restaurant, which occupy prime beach space.

Slick developers

But she's livid, and her blind curmudgeonly father (Ralph Waite) is even more angry and defiant, when slick developers swoop down and try to buy the land during the town's annual Buccaneer Days Festival.

Still, Marly—a divorcee who's dating a self-centered and much younger golf pro— can't stop herself from falling for the enemy: Jack Meadows (Hutton), a handsome landscape architect who's part of the team trying to develop the area.

While Marly's been stuck in Delrona Beach her whole life, Desiree Perry (Angela Bassett) is returning home to neighboring Lincoln Beach for the first time in 25 years, with her gorgeous anesthesiologist husband, Reggie (James McDaniel).

Desiree's strong-willed mother, Eunice (Mary Alice), is reluctant to open her home to her daughter for a visit after all these years. But Eunice is caring for Terrell (Alex Lewis), a teen-age relative who's been in trouble for arson, and sees that Reggie could be a positive influence.

New relationship

Mother and daughter try to forge a new relationship while members of the predominantly black beach community forge an alliance against developers who are eyeing their land, too.

Marly and Desiree come from vastly different backgrounds, but they share similar strengths—and similar regrets, which Sayles reveals eloquently. Marly wanted to be an oceanographer, but was trapped into taking over the family business. Desiree wanted to be an actress, but ended up doing infomercials—and becoming a doctor's wife.

Both do what they must to survive—and both realize they can't escape their pasts, an idea Sayles explores with more honesty and insight than other recent movies to come along with lofty platitudes about destiny, namely "Thirteen Conversations About One Thing" and "Life or Something Like It."

Several actors give memorable supporting performances—especially Mary Steenburgen as an insufferably perky chamber of commerce cheerleader, Sayles film veteran Gordon Clapp as her haplessly suicidal husband, and Alan King as a cynical golfing retiree.

But the movie belongs to Falco and Bassett, two sides of the same coin, both pitch-perfect.

"Sunshine State," a Sony Pictures Classics release, runs 141 minutes. Three and a half stars (out of four). *AP*

EDIE Falco (Marley Temple) and Timothy Hutton (Jack Meadows) in a scene from Sony Pictures Classics' "Sunshine State." AP

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Aleck Bovick makes a big splash in ‘Tampisaw’

By Edmund L. Sicam

ALECK Bovick first made waves in the movie "Kaulayaw" where she played a supporting role to perennial boldie Barbara Milano. Despite her brief appearance, the MTRCB found Aleck's lovemaking in a jacuzzi too steamy and asked the producers to shorten the scene. She got more media attention when her father sued her producer for allowing his daughter, a minor, to do the movie without his permission.

Launching movie

That suit has since been settled (*"Hindi na kami pinapapunta sa korte"*), and Aleck is getting a shot at stardom via her launching movie "Tampisaw." Most of the scenes were shot in the beaches of Pagudpud in the Ilocos region because the movie takes place in a fishing village.

BOVICK. Media attention.

We spoke to Aleck at a recent press lunch and were pleasantly surprised to find that she has more to offer than her shapely (34-24-34) body. Although she only reached second year high school, the 18-year-old actress expertly fielded questions from the intrigue-oriented entertainment press.

Aleck has German blood, courtesy of her mom, who died when she was only two years old. Her real name is Ma. Teresa Bovick Tambis. She grew up in Mandaluyong with her stepmom who has a total of 18 children from three relationships.

She's tall at 5'6" and looks a lot prettier in person compared to the poster promoting her latest movie reminding us once again how important lighting and the right camera angles are. Even "Tampisaw's" trailer didn't do her justice but maybe that's because it was on videotape.

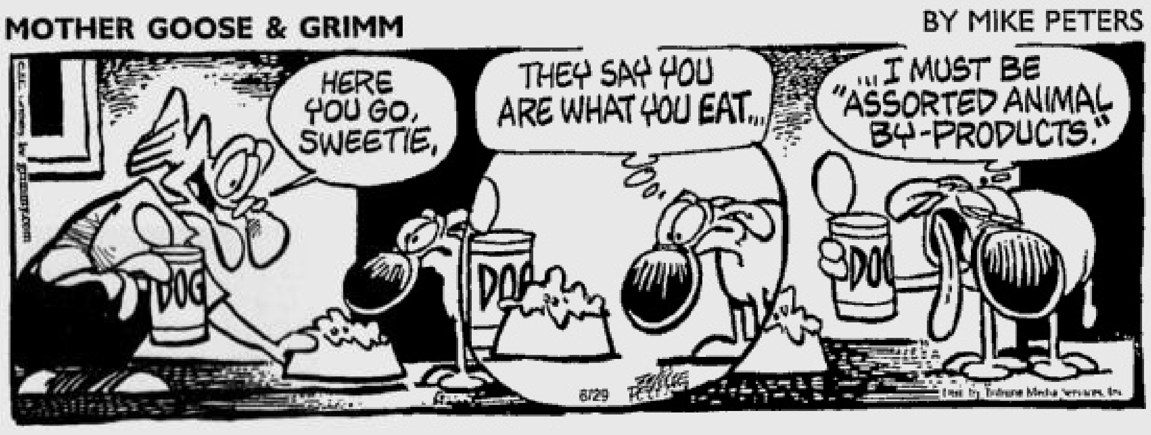
She came to lunch in a see-

ALECK/ p. D7

Simpleng ubo man...

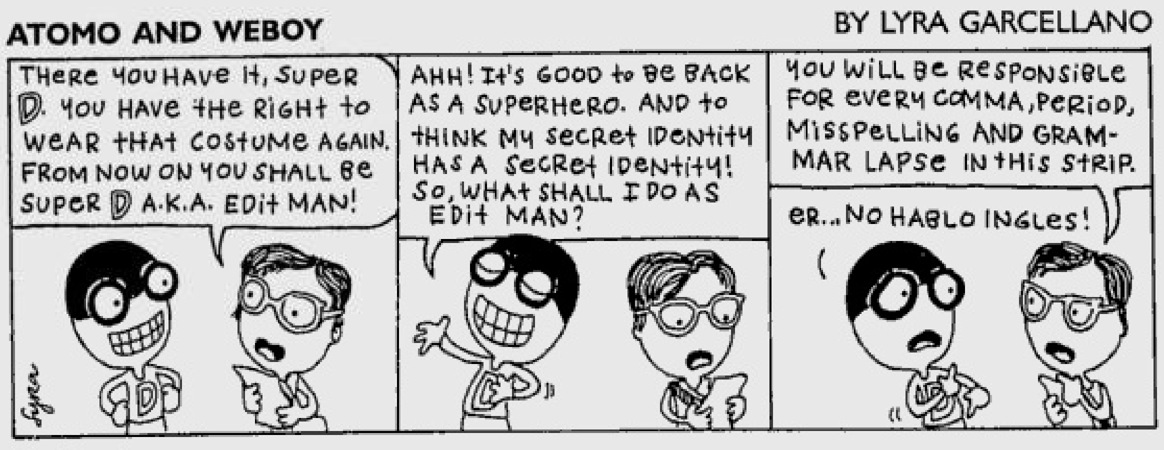
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


HERE YOU GO, SWEETIE,
THEY SAY YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT...
...I MUST BE "ASSORTED ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS."
DOG
6/29

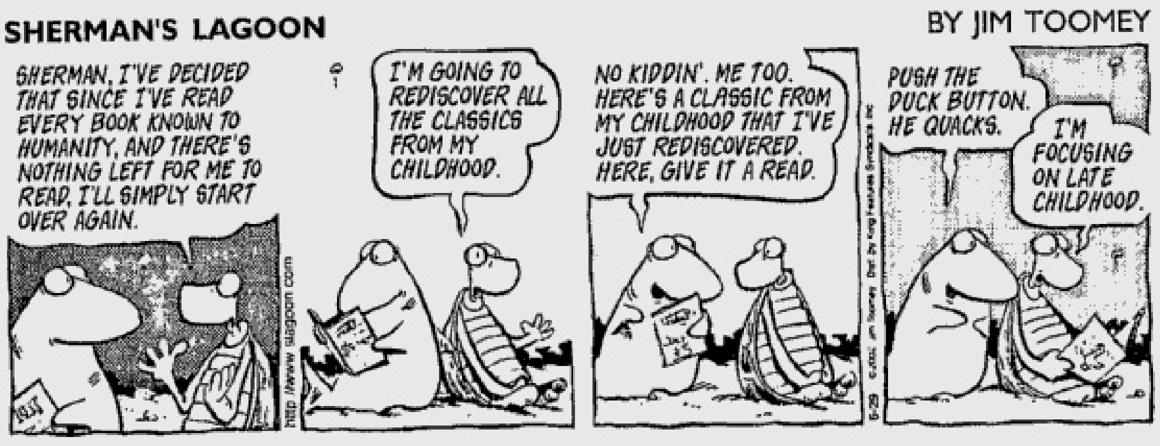
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


There you have it, Super D. You have the right to wear that costume again. From now on you shall be Super D a.k.a. Edit Man!
Ahh! It's good to be back as a superhero. And to think my secret identity has a secret identity! So, what shall I do as Edit Man?
You will be responsible for every comma, period, misspelling and grammar lapse in this strip.
er...No hablo ingles!
Lyra

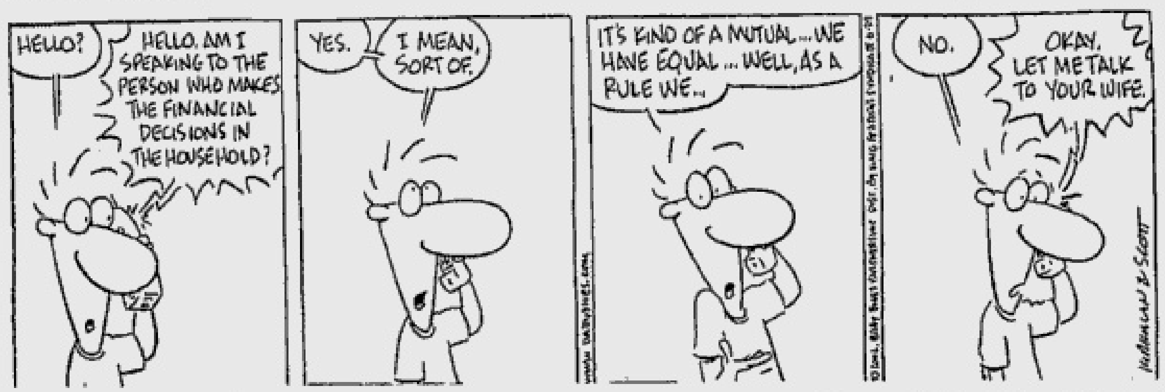
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


SHERMAN, I'VE DECIDED THAT SINCE I'VE READ EVERY BOOK KNOWN TO HUMANITY, AND THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR ME TO READ, I'LL SIMPLY START OVER AGAIN.
I'M GOING TO REDISCOVER ALL THE CLASSICS FROM MY CHILDHOOD.
NO KIDDIN'. ME TOO. HERE'S A CLASSIC FROM MY CHILDHOOD THAT I'VE JUST REDISCOVERED. HERE, GIVE IT A READ.
PUSH THE DUCK BUTTON. HE QUACKS.
I'M FOCUSING ON LATE CHILDHOOD.
http://www.slagoon.com
6-29

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


HELLO?
HELLO. AM I SPEAKING TO THE PERSON WHO MAKES THE FINANCIAL DECISIONS IN THE HOUSEHOLD?
YES.
I MEAN, SORT OF.
IT'S KIND OF A MUTUAL... WE HAVE EQUAL... WELL, AS A RULE WE...
NO.
OKAY. LET ME TALK TO YOUR WIFE.
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Stokely Carmichael, Ruth Warrick, Gary Busey

Happy Birthday: You will work well with others, but you will want to work in a profession that will provide you with a creative challenge. You have an artistic leaning and should look for a way to make money using your talents. You need to take some time to regenerate and decide what you want to do with the rest of your life. Your numbers: 2, 6, 11, 26, 34, 37

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Focus on home and family. If you get involved in a dubious deal you will stand to lose. Put your money and your labor into your own place and your own interests.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will get the help you need today if you ask for it. Your involvement in a worthy cause and the empathy you extend to others will enhance your reputation and bring you rewards.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You may not find it that easy to get others to do what you want today. Do things for yourself and get involved in physical activity that will get your stress level down.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll be starving for intellectual interaction today. Travel will be in your best interest even if you don't really want to leave home. A romantic encounter will occur with someone from a totally different background.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Deals can be made if you take a look at cottage or investment property. A hidden asset will come in handy if you need it. Many options will be open to you today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Relationships will take an interesting turn today. You may be a little shy. This is a good time to let down your guard and get to know someone really well.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Focus on your career, work and moneymaking ventures. Mix a little business with pleasure and you'll see what interesting developments occur. You'll be the one at the helm.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You need to get out and have a little fun. Plan activities that will be romantic and playful. Keep in mind that in order to get ahead you'll probably have to spend a little cash.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Someone is likely to rub you the wrong way. Don't let yourself become angry. It will be hard for someone to be nasty if you refuse to lower yourself to their level.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): This is such a perfect day to nurture a relationship. You will have charm, grace and a rather hard-to-resist demeanor. You will have a terrific time today.

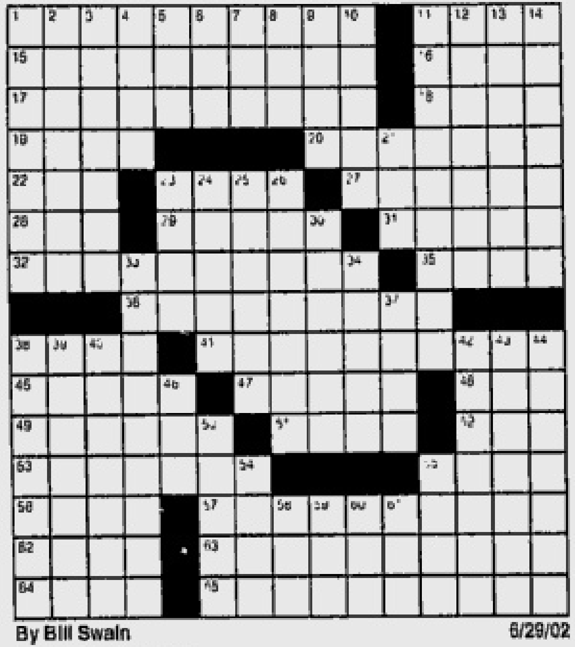
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Concentrate on doing things for friends or relatives who are having difficulties. Your advice will be appreciated and your good deed handsomely repaid.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You will have difficulty expressing yourself without getting sentimental. Delve into a creative hobby that will take your mind off your emotional worries. If you have a youngster in your life spend time doing things to build a closer bond.

Birthday Baby: You will be enthusiastic and will inspire others to follow your lead. You will be generous and will always lend a helping hand to a friend in need.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Bill Swain
New Port Richey, FL

6/29/02

ACROSS
1 Psychological warfare
11 Sooty matter
15 Bathrooms
16 Sorry 'bout that!
17 Cloverleaf elements
18 Johnson of "Laugh-In"
19 Earl __ Biggers
20 Bulwark
22 Recombinant letters
23 Cable channel's letters
27 Thundering herds
28 Bigger pic
29 Double agents
31 Backbone
32 Tibetan leaders
35 St. Louis bridge
36 Teacher
38 Bend out of shape
41 Western outlaws
45 "Christ Stopped at __"
47 Actress Ada
48 Tax deferral letters
49 Brown in fat
51 Unspecified amount
52 Antithesis: abbr.
53 Bitter irony
55 Seed cover
56 Something to think about
57 Cloyingly sweet
62 Beach bird
63 Removes
64 Formerly, formerly
65 Precision

DOWN
1 Trudged
2 City northeast of Florence
3 In general
4 Young salmon
5 Grp. of Sampras, Agassi, etc.
6 Region on the SW coast of India
7 Horace work, "__ Poetica"
8 Constantine's birthplace
9 Forest ruminant
10 Syrian leader
11 Daytime melodrama
12 Czech Republic region
13 Positive development
14 Sleeping sickness carriers
21 "__ Miniver"
23 Abu Dhabi leader
24 Did some cobblers' work
25 Glacial deposit
26 Unconquerable opponents
30 Greek lyric poet
33 Job seeker
34 Fulton's power
37 Caen's river
38 Surfer's stopover
39 Chafer
40 Lions, at times
42 Rock containing feldspar
43 Succulents with purple flowers
44 Lacking energy
46 O.T. book
50 Zigzag turns
54 Brewer's grain
55 Irish islands
58 Geom. shape
59 901
60 __ jacet
61 Pismire

Friday's Puzzle Solved

A	P	H	I	D	■	I	F	F	Y	■	O	P	E	N
G	E	E	S	E	■	L	A	R	I	■	G	O	G	O
A	N	A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	I	D	I	O	M
P	A	D	S	■	B	U	T	T	■	D	E	N	S	E
E	L	I	■	L	I	M	O	■	V	E	N	T	■	■
■	■	N	C	O	S	■	F	L	O	E	■	O	I	L
A	L	T	H	O	■	S	T	E	W	■	A	F	R	O
B	E	H	I	N	D	T	H	E	S	C	E	N	E	S
E	V	E	N	■	R	Y	E	S	■	E	R	O	S	E
T	I	C	■	P	O	E	M	■	O	D	O	R	■	■
■	■	L	E	A	P	■	A	B	L	E	■	E	V	E
S	P	O	R	T	■	S	T	O	A	■	S	T	E	N
L	A	U	G	H	O	U	T	O	F	C	O	U	R	T
U	N	D	O	■	A	M	E	N	■	H	O	R	S	E
R	E	S	T	■	F	O	R	E	■	I	N	N	E	R

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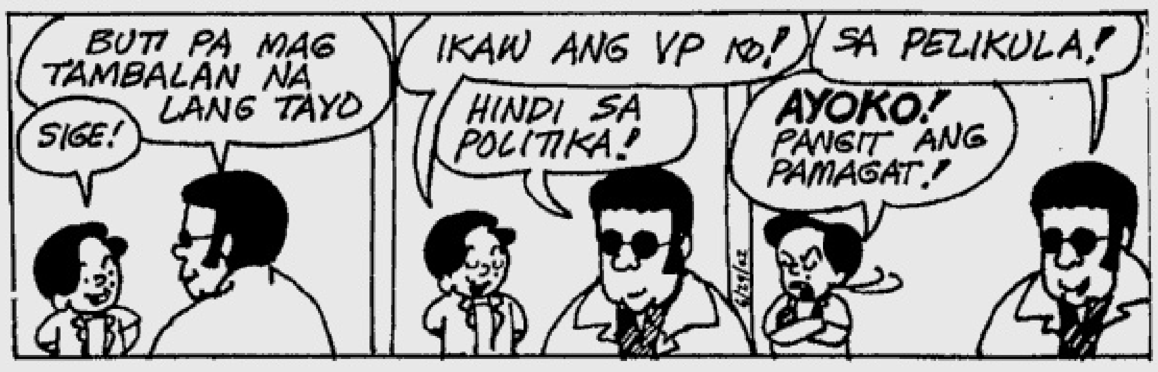
6/28/02

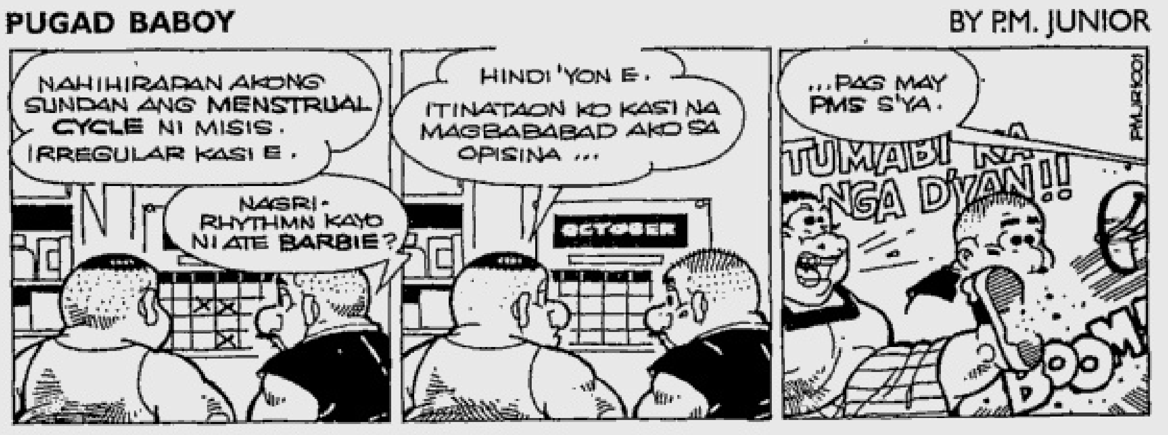
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


BUTI PA MAG TAMBALAN NA LANG TAYO
SIGE!
IKAW ANG VP KO!
HINDI SA POLITIKA!
SA PELIKULA!
AYOKO! PANGIT ANG PAMAGAT!

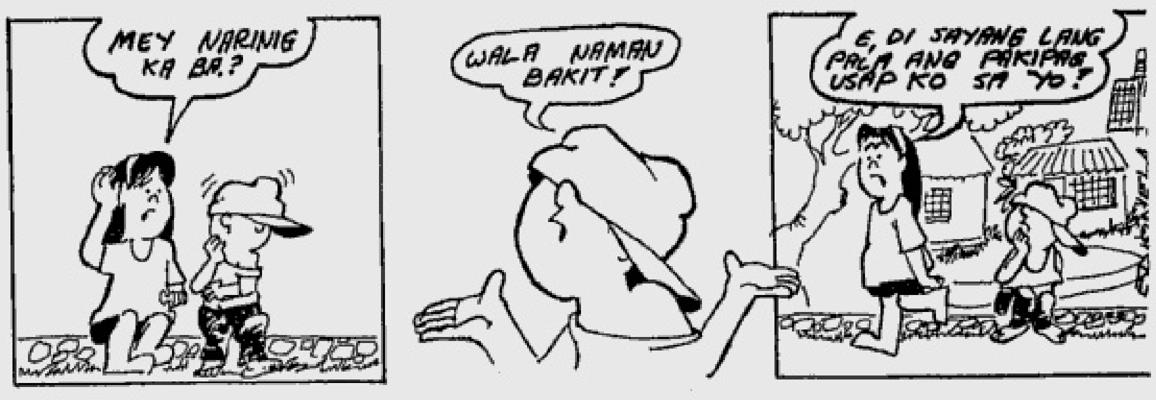
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


NAHIHIRAPAN AKONG SUNDAN ANG MENSTRUAL CYCLE NI MISIS. IRREGULAR KASI E.
NAGRI-RHYTHMN KAYO NI ATE BARBIE?
HINDI 'YON E.
ITINATAON KO KASI NA MAGBABABAD AKO SA OPISINA ...
OCTOBER
...PAG MAY PMS S'YA.
TUMABI KA NGA D'YAN!!
BOOM
PMJR.OO1

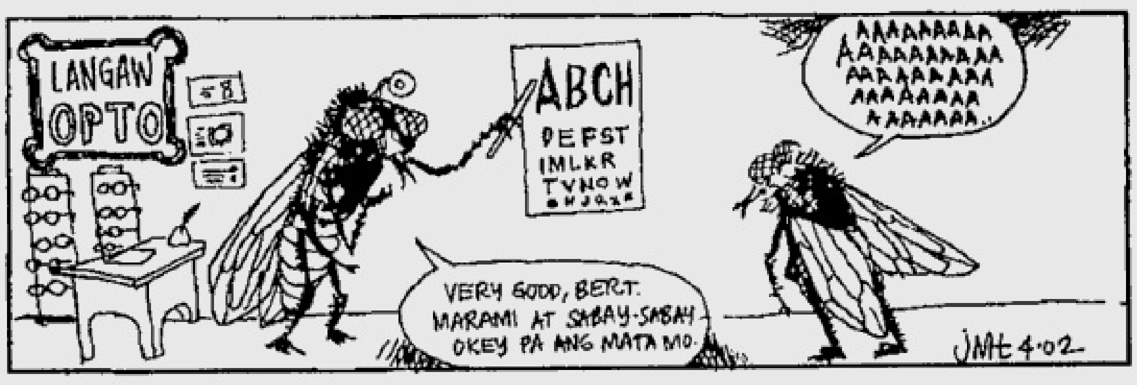
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


MEY NARINIG KA BA?
WALA NAMAN BAKIT?
E, DI SAYANG LANG PALA ANG PAKIPAG USAP KO SA 'YO?

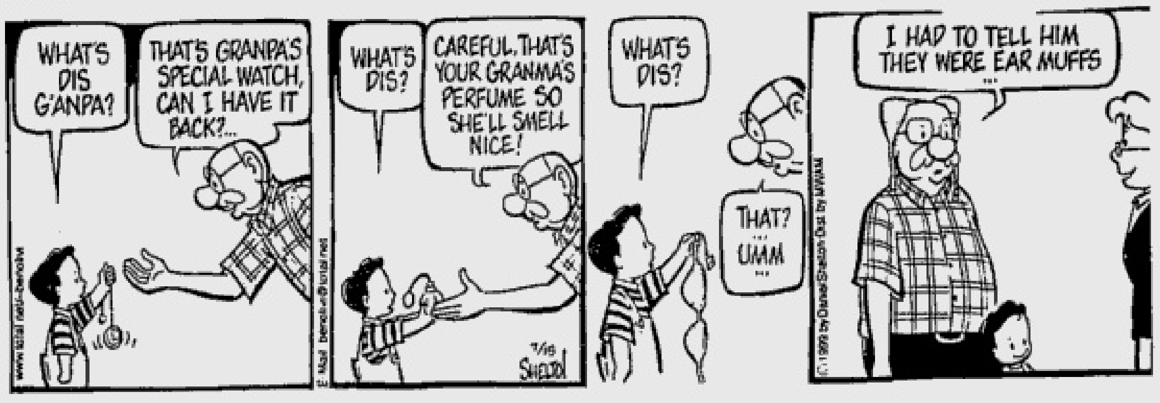
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


LANGAW OPTO
ABCH
DEFST
IMLKR
TVNOW
AAAAAAAAA AAAAAAAAAA AAAAAAAAA AAAAAAAA AAAAAAA..
VERY GOOD, BERT. MARAMI AT SABAY-SABAY OKEY PA ANG MATA MO.
JMt 4·02

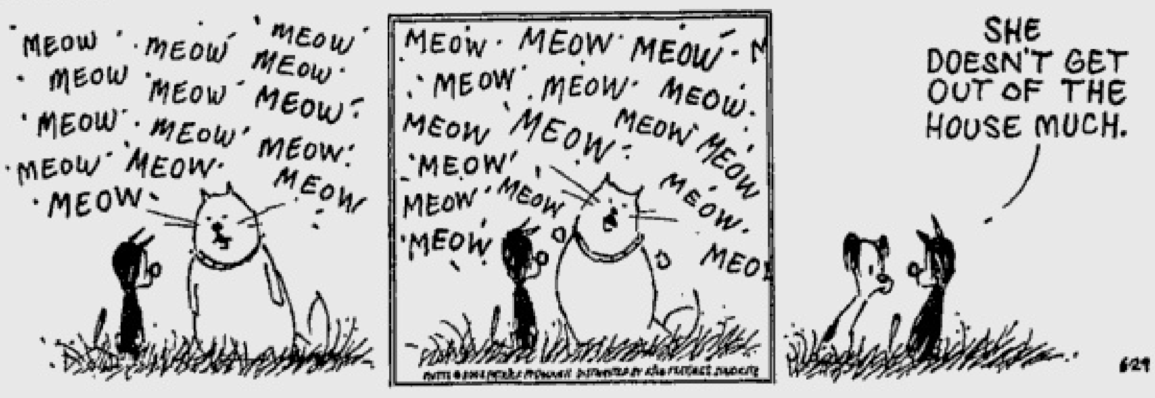
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


WHAT'S DIS G'ANPA?
THAT'S GRANPA'S SPECIAL WATCH, CAN I HAVE IT BACK?...
WHAT'S DIS?
CAREFUL, THAT'S YOUR GRANMA'S PERFUME SO SHE'LL SMELL NICE!
WHAT'S DIS?
THAT? ... UMM ...
I HAD TO TELL HIM THEY WERE EAR MUFFS ...
7/18 Shelton

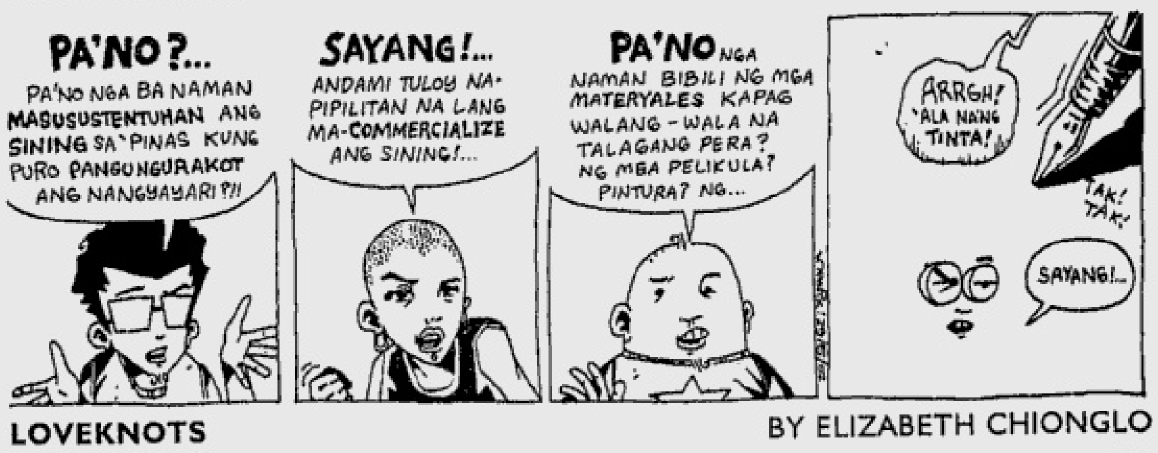
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW
MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEOW MEO
SHE DOESN'T GET OUT OF THE HOUSE MUCH.
6/29

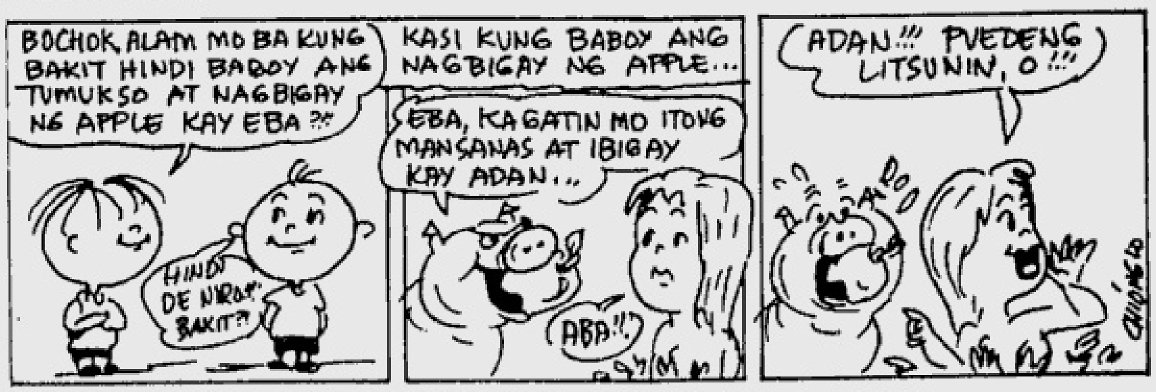
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


PA'NO?... PA'NO NGA BA NAMAN MASUSUSTENTUHAN ANG SINING SA 'PINAS KUNG PURO PANGUNGURAKOT ANG NANGYAYARI?!!
SAYANG!... ANDAMI TULOY NA-PIPILITAN NA LANG MA-COMMERCIALIZE ANG SINING!...
PA'NO NGA NAMAN BIBILI NG MGA MATERYALES KAPAG WALANG-WALA NA TALAGANG PERA? NG MGA PELIKULA? PINTURA? NG...
ARRGH! 'ALA NANG TINTA!
TAK! TAK!
SAYANG!...

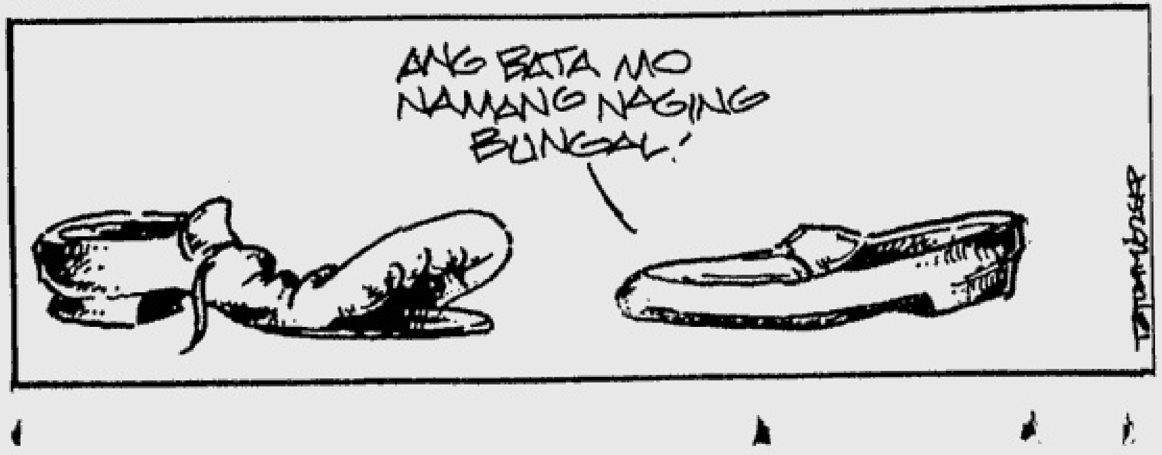
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


BOCHOK, ALAM MO BA KUNG BAKIT HINDI BABOY ANG TUMUKSO AT NAGBIGAY NG APPLE KAY EBA?!!
HINDI DE NIRO? BAKIT?!
KASI KUNG BABOY ANG NAGBIGAY NG APPLE...
EBA, KAGATIN MO ITONG MANSANAS AT IBIGAY KAY ADAN...
ABA!!
ADAN!!! PUEDENG LITSUNIN, O!!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


ANG BATA MO NAMANG NAGING BUNGAL!

Aleck Bovick makes a big splash in 'Tampisaw'

From p. D5

through blouse that showed off her assets to advantage. According to her, she looked too wholesome at her first press conference, not the foxy actress that she's supposed to be, so she decided to be more daring this time.

We asked her if she was shy about disrobing in front of the cameras. She said it was just a job, nothing more. *"Hindi ko na iniisip na mali ang ginagawa ko. Ang importante, kailangan kong magtrabaho. Ginagamit ko lang namang* stepping stone *ito. Pag pumasok na ang malisya, doon na papasok ang hiya. Iisipin ko na pangit ang ginagawa ko."*

She trusts her director, Francis "Jun" Posadas to take care of her. *"May tiwala ako kay direk* Jun. *Kung ano'ng sabi niya,* go." She's thankful that when her more sensitive scenes are shot, only the key people involved in the shoot are around.

Daring scenes

So just how daring are her scenes in her launching movie? *"Kung anong iniisip ng tao, ganun ka-*bold," she replies with a naughty smile. *"Hindi lang kayo kikilabutan, maiiyak din kayo. At saka may* action scenes *din."* Moviegoers may not get to see some scenes because the MTRCB has reportedly asked for several cuts after it was reviewed the first time.

As early as age 13, Aleck was already working as a GRO at La Legende, where she passed herself off as an 18-year-old. That was easy because she looked older than her real age. After six months, she found work in Japan where she stayed for a year. When she came back, she got a job at Kiku Music Lounge at Robinsons Galleria.

She was all set to travel to Japan again when she was spotted by a talent manager who got her an acting job in "Kaulayaw." Now she has a contract to do several pictures. She is also in the GMA soap "Sana Ay Ikaw Na Nga," where she figures in a love triangle involving Meryl Soriano and Kevin Bernal.

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o ubong may kakambal na sipon, lagnat o sakit ng ulo

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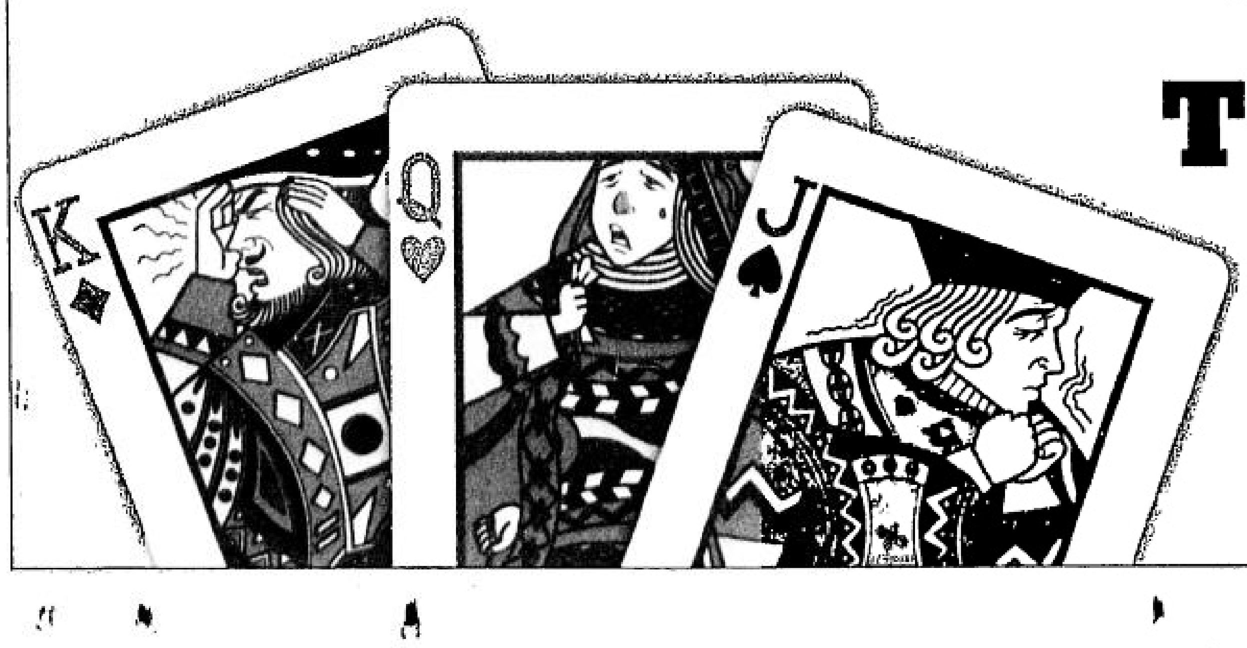

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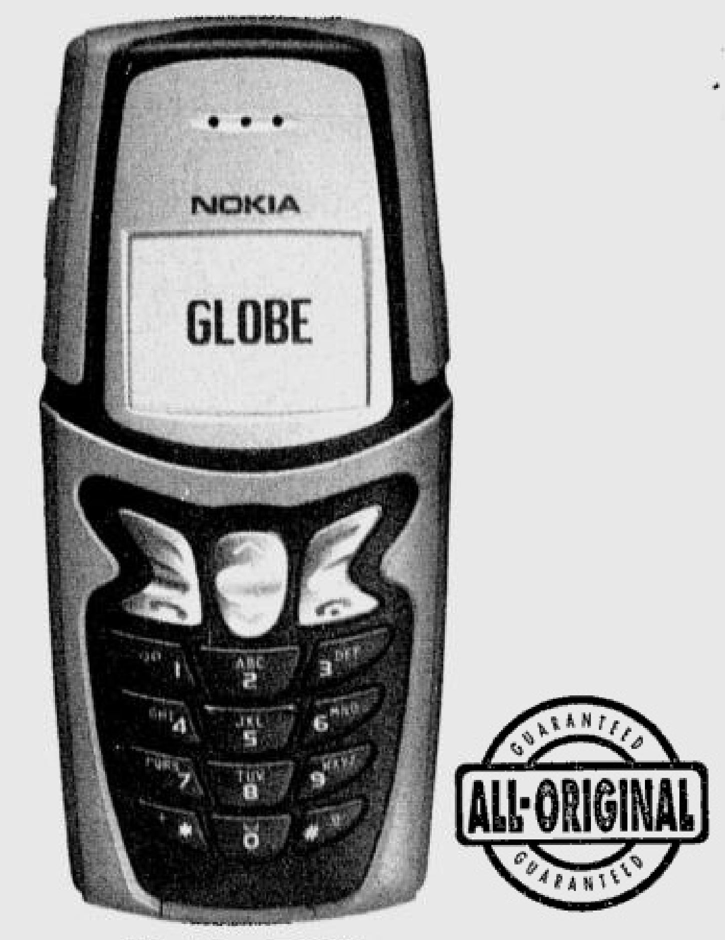

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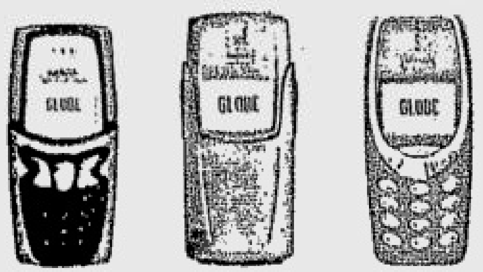

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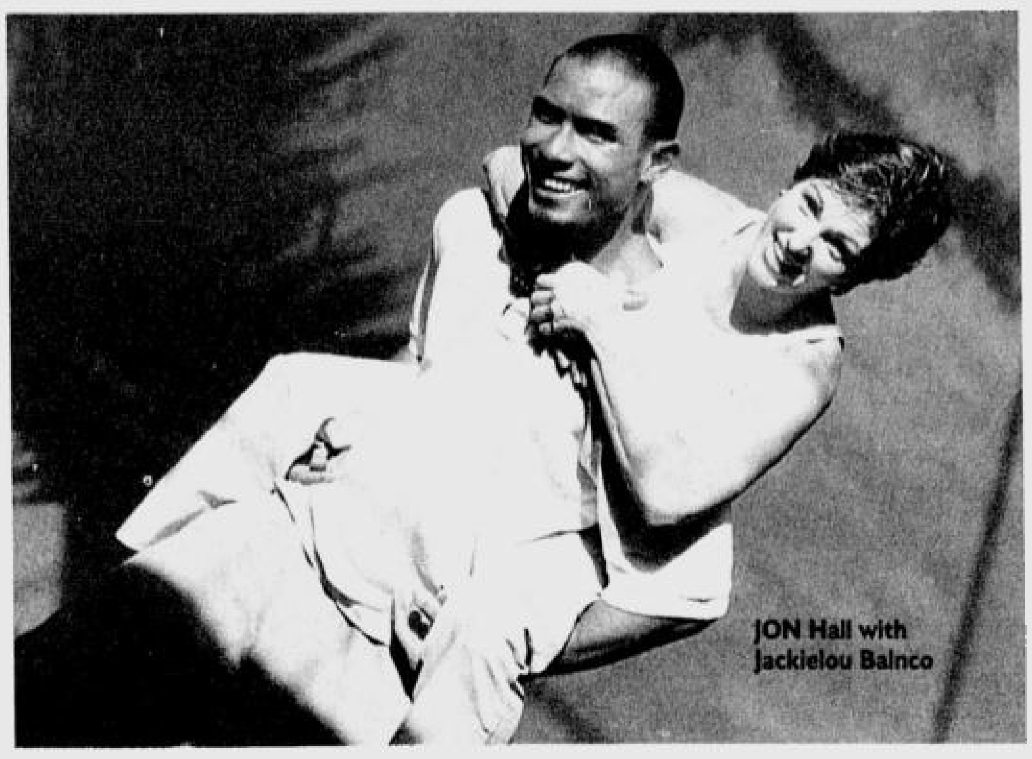

JON Hall with Jackielou Balnco

Macho co-host to make his presence felt on TV next month

By Bibsy M. Carballo

JON Hall, 23, has been a familiar face on television for at least a year with his exposure in the Old Spice commercial, but it is only recently, with his contract as endorser for Bench underwear, that he has begun to make waves with males, females, and gays. And in the months to come, when the adventure game challenge "Quest" hits the boob tube, Jon will become an even more familiar figure weekly to audiences nationwide.

Presence

During the last big Bench fashion show at the Araneta Coliseum, Jon made his presence felt, even in the midst of well-known show biz hunks like Richard Gomez, Jomari Yllana, Deither Ocampo and Wendell Ramos.

"Who is he?" was a question heard everytime Jon would come out on the ramp, followed by *"Ang guwapo."*

But *gwapo* he really is not. Attractive, sexy, *malakas ang dating*, macho, charming, mysterious, would be more like it. His eyes are his best assets and he looks best when he's smiling. He would only be guwapo in the same manner that Robin Padilla is *guwapo*.

Interestingly, he has the same qualities and the same "It" that Robin Padilla has. He exudes maleness, seems to have women in the palm of his hand, and is a self-confessed Bad Boy. *Was*, he corrects us.

Mixed parentage

His mixed parentage (A Batangueña mom and a British father) produced a look that is sometimes mistaken for black. He grew up in England, went to grade school in Cebu, went to Florida for high school and stayed there for a good 10 y ears before returning to the Philippines in 2000.

"Somehow, I could never keep a job in Florida. I was always getting into all sorts of scrapes," he says. He admits to having a short temper which he inherited from his dad, who has some Irish blood in him. Only recently, in Manila, he punched a guy in the face in a traffic altercation. The case is still pending in court.

But that is nothing, he says, to what he was before. He claims he has mellowed and the one positive thing he says he has discovered in coming to live in the Philippines is that he can be responsible, that he can have direction in his life.

Upon arrival here, he went to live with his parents in Cebu, where his mom runs a furniture-for-export business. He helped out in the business and learned Cebuano, which he speaks much better than Tagalog, which he is determined to master.

Jon has a strong, quiet presence, He seldom speaks unless spoken to, and even then tends to respond in a short, precise manner.

He is a creature of many contradictions. He is quiet, *sa loob ang kulo*. He is a perfect domestic animal, great at household duties like washing the dishes, which he admits he does better than any of his three siblings.

Possessive

He is very possessive, particularly with the women he dates. He loves the beach, possibly next to basketball, his one great passion, He has few friends, and is direct and candid in his conversation.

He is camera-shy. He is not homophobic and is amazed at the freedom enjoyed by gays here. He likes the Philippines more than England and the US. He is gentle and rough at the same time.

Jon is perfect for the role of co-host to Jackielou Blanco in "Quest," scheduled Sundays primetime over Channel 4. At a little over six feet, with a lean, sculptured body, he is made-to-order for the outdoors-based TV game show, a first on Philippine television.

It doesn't matter to Richard Tan, who is directing the show, that Jon has no experience in the hosting department. A director who apparently goes by gut feel, Richard feels that Jon will grow into the role, and is amazed at the rapport Jon and Jackie have demonstrated in their pictorial and video sessions together. Even the 10-inch difference in height between them is hardly noticeable.

Sports

Jon is naturally drawn to various sports, but basketball is still tops for him. His goal is to eventually join the professional basketball league. But he has done tennis, archery, various water sports, rappelling (face down), and would like to try sky diving.

"Quest," which will be taped beginning next month in Subic, should give Jon an opportunity to flex his muscles. He should be able to join a couple of the games himself. At the moment, he doesn't know where the experience will lead. But, one thing we are certain of, this new calling will open up new avenues for this young man who has already done ramp and commercial modeling, which have take him all over the country during the past year. For inquiries on "Quest," call 893-1127-1129-1130.

Email the author at bibsymcaryahoo.com

Darth Vader eager to get back into battle

By Paul Majendie

DARTH Vader (center) will figure strongly in the sixth and final "Star Wars" movie.

LONDON—Darth Vader is itching to get back into battle with his light saber—but he has to convince "Star Wars" creator George Lucas first.

Dark side

British strongman Dave Prowse, who epitomized the dark side of The Force in the first Star Wars trilogy, wants to repeat the role, despite arthritis and a dodgy hip.

Two decades after crossing light sabers with Luke Skywalker in the original movies, the 66-year-old actor has his sights firmly set on being fit enough to bid for the role in the sixth and final "Star Wars" movie.

But first the former weightlifting champion who gained screen immortality overnight in 1977 as the menacing, black-cloaked Vader, must undergo his fifth hip operation and get his hefty frame back in form.

"I would love to reprise the Darth Vader role," he told Reuters in an interview on Tuesday. "If I am 100 percent physically able and they offer the part to someone else, I would be very disappointed." The creator of one of cinema's most famous characters will have his next hip operation in September.

Training

"I should be walking properly by Christmas and can get back into the gym and training. I am going to surprise them all next year," he said.

Prowse chilled a generation behind his shiny black mask as the heavy-breathing villain in the first three Star Wars movies but found himself out of a job when the action rolled back to Vader's youth in the current series of "prequels." The last movie in the series, now being scripted by Lucas, completes the circle and brings back the adult Vader in all his evil glory.

Prowse has carved himself out a full-time career travelling the world to Star Wars conventions. Adoring fans queue for hours to get his autograph. "I would say it would probably run into millions (of signatures) by now," he said.

"I was one of the first people to do the conventions. I formed a team and called it 'The Men Behind The Masks' and did them with Chewbacca and C-3PO." Prowse, now working on his autobiography "Straight From The Force's Mouth," has just returned from a Star Wars convention in Indianapolis which attracted up to 100,000 fans.

Tour

"I am off to New York this weekend. I go to Japan once a year and do a tour. Germany is very big, as are Denmark and Sweden," said Prowse, who has his own fans' website that is dedicated to George Lucas.

Prowse played Darth Vader and did all the dialogue in the "Star Wars" movies. But, at the last moment, Lucas asked James Earl Jones to dub the voice in the distinctive deep tones that became an instant classic. *Reuters*

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SATURDAY*Special*

Celebrating Sondheim all summer long

By Michael Kuchwara

WASHINGTON—In a large cinderblock rehearsal studio reminiscent of a cheerless high school cafeteria, more than two dozen actors sit on folding chairs in a large semicircle. They listen attentively to a balding, bespectacled man explain what he hopes to accomplish in the next several weeks at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

"Everytime you're onstage, I want you to know where you are coming from and what you are going to do next," says director Christopher Ashley. He talks briefly before introducing his production team including set designer Derek McLane and costume designer David Woolard.

Revival

What they and the cast are doing is a revival of Stephen Sondheim's "Sweeney Todd," starring Brian Stokes Mitchell as the

CELEBRATING/ p. E2

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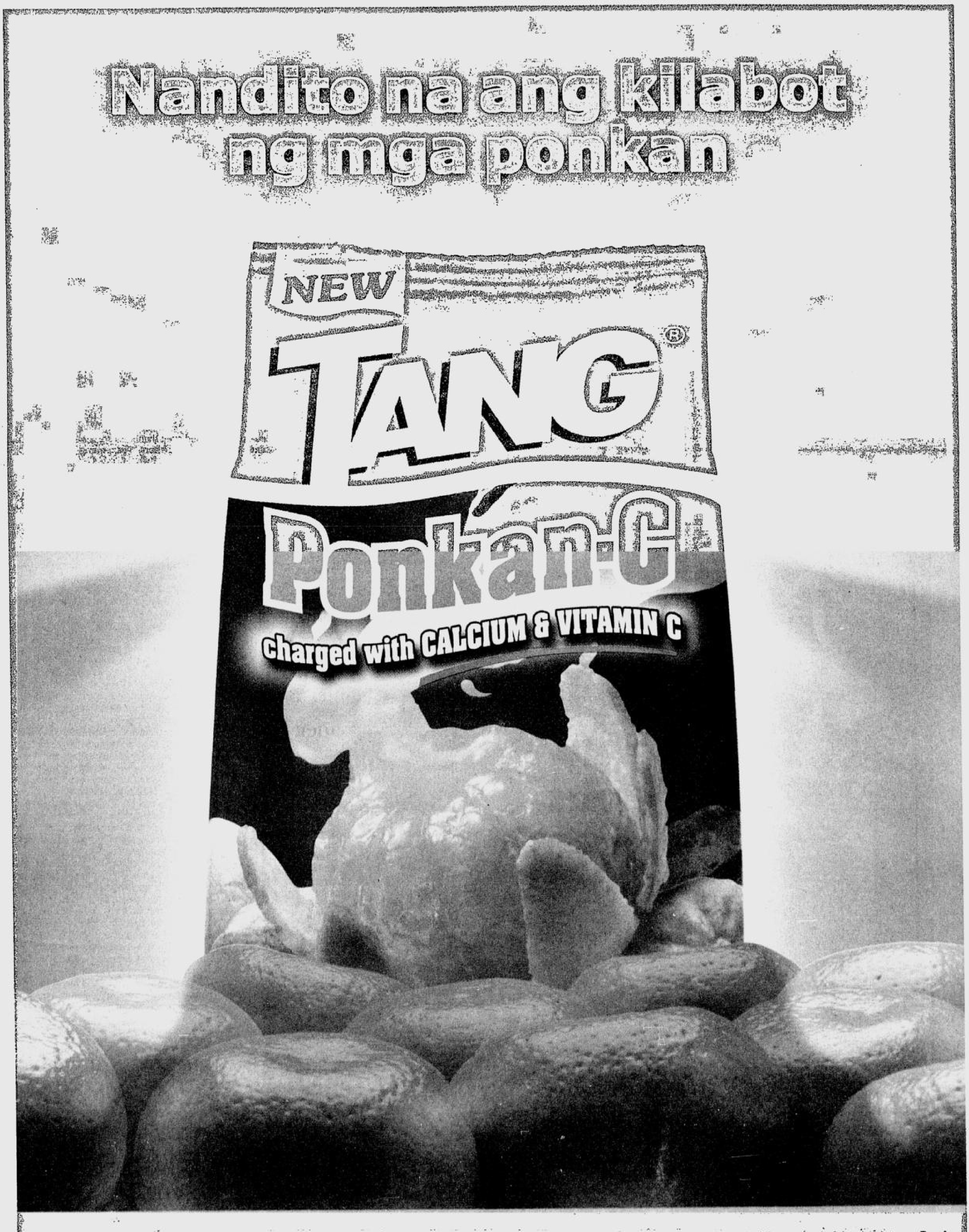

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It's schooltime once again for TV host Paolo Bediones

CELEBRITIES are not known for having many great school memories. But not so for Paolo Bediones. The celebrity host of the "Digital LG Quiz Show" on GMA-7 has been a consistent academic achiever.

Quizmaster

He feels that hosting the country's premier quiz show for high school students is like being back in school—this time, as the quizmaster. In fact, the show's producers didn't think twice before getting him as quizmaster along with Regine Tolentino (who happens to be a former straight-A high school student).

Paolo studied at Ateneo de Manila University, where he was an honorable mention awardee in high school and a consistent Dean's Lister in college. The towering 5'11 1/2" Blue Eagle majored in Interdisciplinary Studies—and eventually graduated in the highest 10 percent of his batch.

BEDIONES with co-host Regine Tolentino.

"Up to now I'm really proud of those achievements, " Paolo says, "even if it meant putting aside other activities in favor of studying."

Technology buff

In fact, one of Paolo's best-liked subjects is technology, particularly information technology. "Ever since I was in college," he relates, "I've always been a technology buff, surfing the Net regularly and looking for pieces of news I can use for the shows I do."

He also checks out the Net for the latest in sports and entertainment. One offshoot of his numerous hours on the computer is a talent for graphic art. "I dabble a lot in various printing techniques and software," Paolo reveals.

With school now in season, Paolo feels a lot more energized in hosting the "Digital LG Quiz Show." "Just giving out the questions to our really bright contestants makes me feel like I'm in school again," he admits.

Futuristic theme

One of the show segments both Paolo and Regine as well as the student contestants enjoy is Megabytes, with its high-technology graphics supporting its futuristic theme.

Now on its third season, the "Digital LG Quiz Show" airs every Sunday at 10 a.m. on GMA-7. Produced by the Alta Productions Group, the show is Star Awards' Best Game Show for 2001 and a proud recipient of the prestigious Anak TV Seal of the Southeast Asian Foundation for Children's Television (SEAFCTV).

Celebrating Sondheim all summer long

From p. E1

murderous Demon Barber of Fleet Street and Christine Baranski as Mrs. Lovett, his pie-baking accomplice.

It's the first day of rehearsals for the show, the opening attraction of the center's $10 million summerlong salute to Sondheim, the most influential figure in the American musical theater in the last 50 years. "Sweeney Todd" is just the beginning.

In repertory

Running into late August, this ambitious celebration will give theatergoers a chance to see six Sondheim musicals in repertory, three at a time. "Sweeney Todd" opened May 12 to be quickly followed by "Company" and "Sunday in the Park With George," and later by "Merrily We Roll Along," "Passion" and "A Little Night Music."

Also billed are appearances by such theater artists as Barbara Cook and Mandy Patinkin as well as a bonus production in September of "Pacific Overtures"—in Japanese with English surtitles—by the New National Theatre of Tokyo.

The six-musical festival, which ends Aug. 25, is the brainchild of Kennedy Center president Michael Kaiser. It's something Kaiser has been dreaming about for the last dozen years, even while he was running dance companies and then rescuing London's Royal Opera House from financial ruin.

"Michael said it was possible, and he had accomplished such wonders in England. I thought, 'If anyone can do it, he can,'" Sondheim says. "It didn't seem like a pie in the sky. It seemed practicable."

Practicable—and necessary, according to the enthusiastic Kaiser, who speaks like a true believer in the greater glory of musical theater.

Myths

"I felt there were a lot of myths about Steve's work: that it's all the same; that it's cold, unemotional, not bankable," Kaiser says. *AP*

Dero Pedero, life enhancer

By Nestor U. Torre

PEDERO. Positive inputs.

FOR many years, Nonong Pedero was successful as a musical performer and prize-winning composer. He also produced some specials for TV, but he was pretty much known as a musician.

Popularity

Most people would be happy to attain the recognition and popularity he had, but not Nonong. He dropped out of the show biz scene for some years and, sometime back, he reappeared no longer as Nonong, but as Dero Pedero.

It soon became clear that much more had changed in him than just his name. It turned out that he had attended many life-enhancing and —transforming seminars in the States, and was now eager to share what he has learned, in addition to his own insights on the subject, with his fellow Filipinos.

He started by writing a newspaper column that soon became very popular. Then, some months ago, he started offering five-hour seminars to teach his eager followers how to Make Your Impossible Dreams Come True.

Inspired

We attended one such Dero Pedero Success Seminar recently, and can report that many of the people present got thoroughly involved in the subject and inspired to apply the seminar's positive inputs to their own lives.

We were already familiar with some of the points Dero raised, because we had been exposed to similar seminars offered by Charley Barretto, Jaime Licauco and George Sison. But we still got good refresher from Dero's take on the topic of life enhancement and transformation because of his unique way of synthesizing what his different gurus aborad had taught him—and, even better, integrating it into the Philippine context.

Temperament

He also made use of dynamic visualizations and music/sound reinforcement, very much in keeping with his own temperament and interests. It's no mean feat for just one speaker to keep a roomful of people interested for so many hours, but Dero managed to do exactly that without completely wearing himself out in the process.

In fact, even as midnight loomed, he looked like he could go on for three more hours! On the other hand, we, frankly, were thoroughly pooped, our head bursting with all of the positive and negative points Dero had raised all evening.

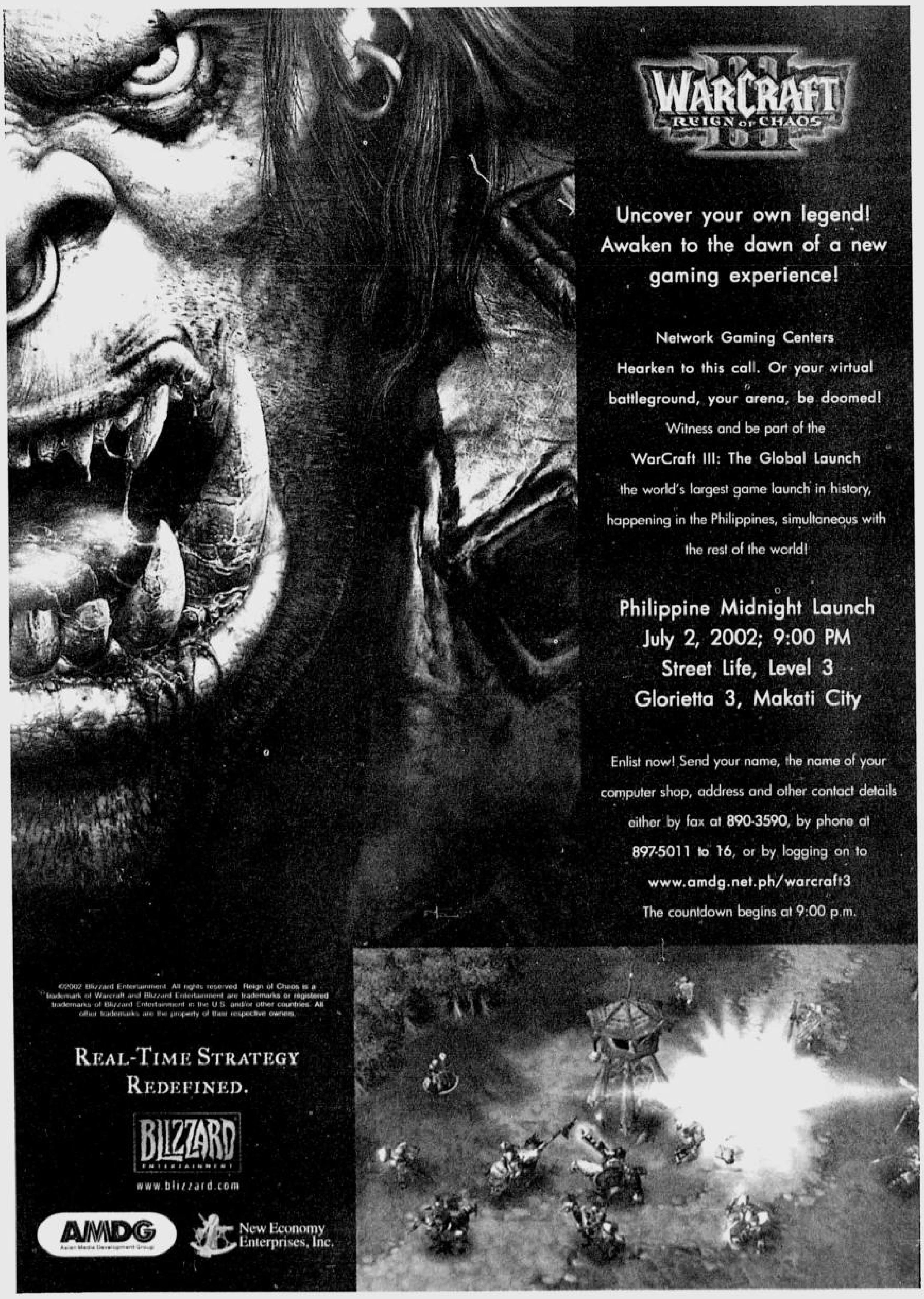
Salient points

Without giving the seminar's most salient points away, we can share with you that it dealt with the 12 "failure anchors" that keep us from achieving our dreams; positive ways to combat those minus points; the untapped power of the conscious mind; man's ultimate goals; principles for right living; master action plans for the future; dream achievement and creative visualization techniques, etc.

We were seated with the swellegant Cory Quirino, who herself gives seminars from time to time, and her interaction with Dero made for an unusually lively evening.

Cory intimated that she was working on a big seminar of her own which she would unveil soon, and Dero himself shared that he had other seminars lined up this year, including one on Making Money! (The line forms to the right, folks.)

Meanwhile, Dero holds his popular success seminar practically once a week these days, and attendance is SRO. Interested? Call Deena at 0920-405-3233.



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Pamela Anderson's 'V.I.P.' headed for R.I.P.

By Doug Young

LOS ANGELES—Even V.I.P.s can have the red carpet pulled out from under them.

Financial woes

Columbia TriStar Domestic Television said on Thursday it is pulling the plug on its syndicated action-adventure series "V.I.P." starring Pamela Anderson, citing the financial woes of its production partner on the show, German media giant Kirch.

"As a result of our co-producing partner, Kirch's, financial difficulties, they were no longer able to continue with the show, which made the financial outlook untenable," Columbia TriStar, a unit of Sony Corp., said in a statement.

Kirch declared its core television business insolvent in early April, and made a similar insolvency filing for its loss-making pay-television unit a month later.

In her own statement, Anderson, who rose to fame on the syndicated series "Baywatch" and made headlines for her marital ups and downs with rocker Tommy Lee, said she was ending the four-year-old show for a number of reasons.

Multitude of issues

"Due to a multitude of issues—some personal—we have decided to all move on from 'V.I.P.,'" she said in a statement.

"It has been an incredibly fun four seasons and we kicked butt!"

Anderson, one of the show's executive producers and the real-life mother of two young sons, said she wants to undertake other projects and spend more time at home.

She said the show has been sold into syndication to cable network TNN, and will start airing there in September.

"I will also be starring in my own animated series created by Stan Lee—'Stripperella,' which is coming soon," she said.

Set in Los Angeles, "V.I.P." revolves around the character Vallery Irons, a small-town girl who comes to the big city and ends up as head of a professional bodyguard agency now named V.I.P. for Vallery Irons Protection.

Reuters

ANDERSON. Will soon star in her own animated series.

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Philippine television rediscovered—and reassessed

By Ronald G. Mangubat

AFTER 1,460 days of life in exile, I find myself watching local television again. My eagerness and excitement are mounting. Shall I open a bottle of wine to celebrate the occasion? Do I need to brew coffee to keep me awake all night? Should I increase my set's volume to dramatize the return of an ex-TV addict? My less jumpy right brain tells me to shun the tacky funfare and simply watch. It takes a flick of the switch to calm my impatient nerves.

Catchy

It is ABS-CBN's summer MTV station ID that first catches my curious eye. The song is catchy and the images of the stations' roster of radiant, smiling stars flying a giant kite instantly make me smile, too.

Unfortunately, this is followed by a shampoo commercial that shows a young model swaying her long, black hair in slow mo. Haven't I seen this in hundreds of ads years ago? Irked, I instantly switch to the rival station and catch Johnny Depp speaking Tagalog, and a male voice-over explaining the film "Nick of Time" has been "Tagalized."

I don't know how to react. I know I sorely missed hearing Tagalog for years, and I'm aware that language is not a monopoly of one's native race, but hearing it spoken by Johnny Depp (dubbed by Bobby Andrews) still feels awkward and strange to me.

This is followed by teasers of Latin telenovelas wherein Pinoy talents deliver off-sync dialogue mouthed by sexy mestizos and mestizas on the screen, who call each other with double names like Luis Alberto and Betty La Fea. When the Pinoy telenovela teaser counterpart is shown next and a local actor refers to Sunshine Dizon as Rosa Camila, I quickly get the conspicuous connection: Talk about Spanish hegemony, and riding on popular trends!

War of game shows

I wait for the much-talked-about war of game shows. Somebody has told me the popularity of these shows is already waning but I want to find out what the whole hoopla is all about.

Switching channels in between commercial breaks, I see Boyet, Edu and Kris competing with each other to catch the nation's attention, and I'm amazed at how dispensing encyclopedic information can be so entertaining and enterprising at the same time.

As of my last count, there are eight game or quiz shows spread over four local TV stations, and this does not include the game portions of variety lunch shows, which also give away millions of cash to lucky members of the studio audience and to home viewers. I wonder what has been the effect of this "instant gratification" scheme on viewers' perception of the value of money.

The more I get disturbed, the more curious I become. When I left Manila, text messaging was still unheard of. Now it is already an integral part of TV shows. Paolo Bediones, in fact, even hosted a show titled "Texters Five."

Before, singing contests were just mere competition of the best voices and stage presence, but now, at least four TV shows rely on videoke technology to spice up the bruising competition, proving once more that, aside from basketball, singing in KTV bars has really become a national pastime.

Disturbing

I find nothing wrong with that. But there's something disturbing when a variety show subject mediocre singers to humiliation, like being sprayed with water or powder when they are eliminated. I wondered if we are subliminally breeding sadism and masochism into our culture.

WILLIE NEP, MARENG WINNIE AND CHE-CHE LAZARO. TV personalities to be happy about.

Four years ago, the term people power only referred to the first Edsa revolt of 1986. Now everyone's quietly speculating about Edsa 4. "You missed Erap's impeachment trial on TV," an old friend proudly says. "That's reality as entertainment." But at least, you still caught a glimpse of the Rico Yan tragedy. They've over-stretched real-life drama."

How can tragedy be entertaining? I curiously ask. "Well," he unashamedly replies, "that's the idea. Television is now imitating life, just as life imitates television."

In the days that follow, I get more hooked on watching local TV and slowly experience a relapse by becoming the couch potato I once was. And I discover that while there are things that get me depressed about Philippine TV, there are also a lot of things to be happy about. I'm glad "The Probe Team" is still around and has successfully shifted to Filipino. I was also able to watch a few episodes of "I-Witness," the GMA documentaries, and found myself applauding, particularly two outstanding episodes hosted and written by Howie Severino and Kara David.

I'm also happy that brilliant and responsible people like Winnie Monsod, Randy David and Katrina Legarda are still hosting TV shows.

Bubbly

Surely, I miss the likes of Bong Lapira and Mon Isberto on the boob tube, but am glad that the bubbly Lyn Ching and the charming Miriam Quiambao are perking up other people's lives every morning.

In the news department, I've seen a lot of new faces, some of them still nervous and camera-conscious, messing up their spiels and unable to listen to their interviewees. I tell myself that even CNN is also guilty of this, and I remember one weather girl who literally shook and panicked on her broadcast debut. It will probably take a sensational scoop to make instant superstars out of these news reporters, but I hope that they also realize that superstardom is only small potatoes on the whole broadcast-journalism dish.

On the debit side, except for the whoops of laughter which I got from Jon Santos and Willie Nepumoceno in "Ispup" and Michael V. in "Bubble Gang," the rest of the comedy shows on local TV never fail to give me migraine attacks. They rely on unimaginative plots, poke fun at people's disabilities and even capitalize on human body secretions to evoke laughter. I'm glad that Goldilocks came up with this ad on the power of the TV viewer to discern which shows to watch. But what's disturbing is that those inane comedy shows are still rating highly.

Substance

Has television changed for the better after four years? Yes and no. While I've seen some shows brimming with substance, some of which have even won international awards, there are also programs that reek of inanity and mediocrity.

Some talents have improved, reinvented themselves and shifted their loyalties by moving to rival stations. Martin Nievera has mellowed and is now acting his age. The De Belen sisters have become competent talk-show hosts, and Jackie Lou Blanco has transformed herself into a fitness guru of sorts.

Movie stars like Bong Revilla, Rudy Fernandez and Hilda Koronel, who years ago, I used to watch exclusively on the big screen, have become familiar fixtures on the boob tube. Change, indeed, is the only permanent thing in this world.

The whole television industry has embraced the miraculous advances in telecommunications and computer technology. This is evident in the way televiewers react instantly to live shows.

21st-century feel

Aesthetically, state of the art digital computer graphics and effects have produced a 21st-century feel with the way graphics and images fly, flip and tumble, elevating post-production to a higher notch, worthy of world-class standards.

But whether we like it or not, television is still first and foremost an intricate, competitive business venture, and striking a balance between profit, service and developmental goals will always be a challenge.

We have an overload of information, too many economic, social and political problems, too short memories and attention spans, and we have a fiesta culture that always calls for fun and entertainment. This is why the powerful television industry, including ordinary viewers like myself, have a lot of work to do. For better or for worse, I tell myself, this is my country, and boy am I glad to be back home!

TWO FOR THE SHOW

Pops counts her blessings

By Mary Ann A. Bautista
and Ricky T. Gallardo

POPS Fernandez is finding out that being single again is as being married. On top of raising Robin and Ram, she has to contend with intrigues.

A casual conversation can be magnified into an "affair." A simple friendship can be construed as "steady dating." But she feels her busy schedule keeps her sane. "So what if I date, I am a single woman," she sighs.

"I stuck to singing and acting because that's what I do best. I decided to stay in the business for myself and for my kids. I could have left and learned a new skill but singing and acting was what I do best, so I stayed," Pops grins.

She changes her look every so often to keep her fans interested. "As an artist I have to constantly reinvent myself for the benefit of my audience. They see me all the time, they could easily get sick of me," Pops explains.

Pops Fernandez's progress and maturity as an artist are becoming more evident with every performance she makes. Her "Weekend with Pops" at Onstage Theater last January proved this. She's not a powerful belter but she chooses her songs wisely to connect with her audience.

She has no qualms about helping upstarts. "It's nice to help other people get started because when I was just starting, many people backed me up," she recalls.

She is smiling a lot these days. She is in full control of herself. Her source of inspiration are her two sons and she's very proud of them.

"When drastic changes happen in our family, I consult them right away before they hear it from somebody else. Call it a mother's touch. I make them understand that it is never their fault and everything happens for a reason," she shares.

She talks freely about her ex-husband Martin Nievera and claims that they have become better friends after their separation.

Rumors have linked her with Aga Muhlach, Troy Montero and Piolo Pascual but she reportedly found a new love in a Filipino-French guy, Jacques Dupasquier, though she'd rather not dwell on him. She is hesitant to share information about her personal life because she wants to keep it a "private moment."

ALCASID. "Not all my songs mirror who I am."

Her movies "Linlang" and "Gusto Ko Nang Lumigaya" earned good reviews and working with her director Maryo J. delos Reyes was a rewarding experience. "Forgettable" is how Pops describes most of her past movies, so she feels vindicated with her performance in "Linlang" which Maryo J. delos Reyes megged.

She hopes to write scripts and direct in the future.

Ogie Alcasid enjoys married life

Ogie Alcasid has aptly titled his new album, "A Better Man." Ogie says it describes his current state as a man and artist. "After getting married to a wonderful wife and becoming a father, my priorities now center on fulfilling those roles."

Happiness and bliss seem to radiate from Ogie as he talks about his family. Since he's so happy, does that mean that he'll stop writing painful love songs?

Ogie vigorously shakes his head: "As a songrwiter, I try to condition my mind to go through different emotions. I try to create a movie in my mind, a movie that has a beautiful yet painful love story in it."

He has sung duets with divas Regine Velasquez and Lani Misalucha and Ogie feels that the interaction has made him a better singer and composer. "Working with other artists also made me more patient. It enabled me to wait for the inspiration to flow."

Is he a better composer now than when he started out?

"When I was starting, I would get frustrated if nothing would come out in a session. Now I just wait for the inspiration to come and then take advantage of it to the fullest."

He seems to put his heart and soul into a song. Does that mean that he is an extension of his songs? "Not all my songs mirror who I am as a person. Only the ones that talk about love and devotion!"

Survivor a la 'Probe Team'

"The Probe Team" is celebrating its 15th year on television and although it's beset with financial problems at the moment, the celebration goes on with a two-part TV special inspired by the "Survivor" series.

We caught the first of these two interesting episodes wherein Cheche Lazaro, Bernadette Sembrano, Jay Orense, Love Añover, Eliza Zamora, and Robert Alejandro hied off to Samal Island in Davao for a three-day test of strength, character, teamwork and stamina.

What we witnessed though was more than just that—because we saw the true personas of each of the participants and what stuff they were made of when faced with real-life obstacles.

Cheche, despite being the oldest, had focus and the will to survive. Love knew how to lift her spirits and switched her sense of humor back when shutting off seemed a lot easier. Bernadette, despite being the most fragile, knew how to persevere and move on. Jay just went along with the flow and didn't look like he was into it. Eliza whined throughout and seemed not to jell with the others. And Robert was an "angel," always ready to offer a hand and a smile to everyone.

We're looking forward to next Tuesday's wrap-up to determine who among the six will come out as true survivor. Happy Anniversary "Probe Team," You will survive!

John-D Lazatin elated over movie-directing debut

There is a perfect time for everything, as debuting film director John-D Lazatin believes. After waiting for a break for a long, long time, this good-looking TV director finally megged his first feature film, "Forevermore," and got better deals than he'd ever wished for.

First, there's the sure-fire tandem of Jericho Rosales and Kristine Hermosa. Then, there's the magic of having a feel-good, super-*kilig* plot. And lastly, there's the Star Cinema promotional machinery that is backing up the film 100 percent.

"I can't ask for more!" he says. "The film is worth the long wait."

Will beginner's luck work for Lazatin?

'The Wonder Years' makes the '60s live again

By Mona Gonzalez

WHEN you've got a pre-adolescent daughter, it goes without saying that there will come a time when you find yourself stuck watching adolescent TV shows yourself. Thankfully, I recently came across one such show that was intriguing for reasons that ran past the usual teen cliches.

Weekdays

Curiously, I asked my daughter why she liked "The Wonder Years," a 30-minute TV series on the Disney Channel that is shown weekdays from 9:30 to 10 p.m. She simply said, "It's cool, mom."

Kevin Arnold, the main character of the show, is not your standard adolescent teen "hero." He doesn't wield a computer, for starters (once, after watching "The Wonder Years" we came across another show about a 13-year-old boy. The script was shallow but high on computer gadgetry).

"The Wonder Years" is a period show focused on the '60s, so lots of baby boomers will enjoy looking back. But unlike other shows that tend to identify the '60s with the hippies (such as the parents of "Dharma and Greg," and Clarissa's folks), Kevin's mom and dad are '60s squares.

Dad is a former military man with a Troy Donahue haircut, while Mom is a miniskirted blonde who sometimes wears flower-power prints—but with heels, a headband and Sandra Dee hair!

Kevin and his brother, aged 16, have Beatle moptop cuts. But the program focuses on the internal world of Kevin as he wrestles with his adolescence. We see a boy who is uncertain, often bewildered by his world, and very impressionable. The show is funny, and Kevin's a good kid.

The Arnolds do not come across as the perfect family, and Kevin's parents are not projected as warm and nurturing. Oh, in the real world they probably would be, but you see, everything in this show—the boy's parents, his teachers, his friends, his school—is viewed through the boy's perspective.

Kevin is not a young jock who wields a football and wears shoulder guards. He is a sensitive boy who might someday write, or wield a guitar. But for now, he's busy trying to figure out this big, crazy world, through the limitations of his adolescent mind and sensibilities.

Best friend

He is not concerned about being popular. His best friend looks like a nerd, his other friend is shallow. *He* doesn't seem to share his thoughts with anyone, as we are led through his "paroxysms" of growing up.

One successful ploy the show uses is that of an "internal voice" which is the voice of an adult. It reflects Kevin's thoughts. His speaking voice is his own, using the words he chooses to express himself with to the world. Often, what he says is just a smidgen of what he thinks, or what he would like people to know and understand.

We enjoyed the episode where he dwells in his infatuation with his "great love," a young adolescent girl with a "Gidget" face, but with the long, straight black tresses of Gracie Slick. The girl always has an inscrutable look on her face, to reflect how Kevin never really knows what she's thinking.

In one episode, the girl's parents throw a party, and Kevin thinks it will be the setting for their declaration of mutual love. Instead he finds out she's going to live in another state!

We also enjoyed an episode where he wrestles with the class bully, who not only likes to beat him but also steals his "Gidget-girlfriend" (whom he has yet to work up enough courage to declare his love to).

Russian film industry battles Hollywood Goliath

By Clara Ferreira-Marques

MOSCOW—A fervently patriotic tale of a soldier's bravery and young love, "Zvezda," or Star, would once have been a sure-fire box office hit.

Premiere

Instead, the premiere of what was billed as the Russian film of the year was dwarfed by the release of a flurry of Hollywood blockbusters, including the latest "Star Wars" epic.

"We were able to distribute it only because of our connections," acknowledged Karen Shakhnazarov, the film's producer and head of Russia's flagship Mosflim Studios.

"Most of the foreign films are dubbed and prepared here, so we know the distributors. But if I had not been from Mosfilm, I would have had no chance," he told Reuters.

Tucked into a leafy bend on the Moskva river, the sprawling Mosfilm studios were once the center of the Soviet Union's prolific film industry.

Home to cinema greats Sergei Eisenstein and Andrei Tarkovsky, Mosfilm produced some 100 films a year at the height of Soviet power.

Now, the flagship studios produce at most 30 Russian films a year, only a tiny percentage of which will ever make it to the country's cinemas. Most are shelved.

Opening credits

Mosfilm, whose opening credits still feature its trademark worker and peasant logo, instead covers its costs by producing music, television advertising and low-budget made-for-TV films.

"If Russia wants to become a cinema nation, as it was during Soviet times, it needs to produce at least 150 films a year," Shakhnazarov said.

"Mosfilm is ready for this but we cannot answer for the whole of the Russian cinema industry, let alone finance it."

Refused by distributors

Russia's film industry has suffered the aches and pains of post-Soviet society, dwindling state subsidies and encroaching Hollywood blockbusters.

And though, after a barren stretch, Russians are returning to movie theaters, few domestically produced films ever manage to reach out to the general public.

"Statistics show that across Russia only seven percent of films shown in cinemas are Russian. In privately-owned cinemas this number drops to two to three percent, not more," said Igor Kallistov of the Ministry of Culture's department of cinema regulation and development.

Real cinema

"More than half the films shown on television, including made-for-TV productions, are Russian. But real cinema is cinema on the big screen." Director Ivan Dykhovichny, whose films include "Moscow Parade" with German chanteuse Ute Lemper, says Russian films are simply refused by distributors.

"Distributors don't care whether it is a good or bad film. It is tarred simply because it is ours," he told the leading Izvestiya daily.

"They tell us: Learn to film like they do in America! And why should Russia need to film like they do in America?"

One reason, distributors might argue, is cost.

Russian films, shown only or mainly within Russia, are more expensive than their US-made counterparts, as US productions can afford to spread their costs over a far larger audience.

Reuters

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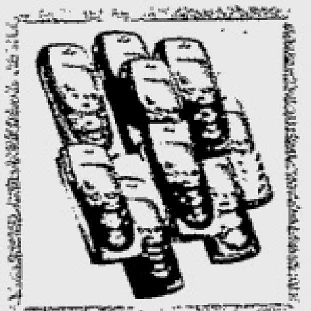
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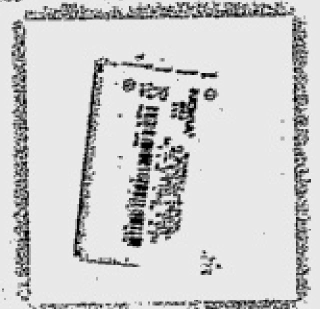
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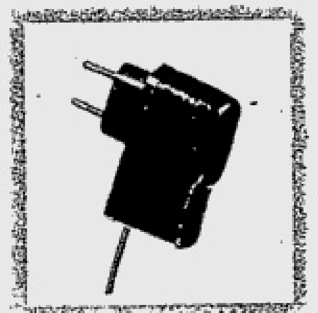
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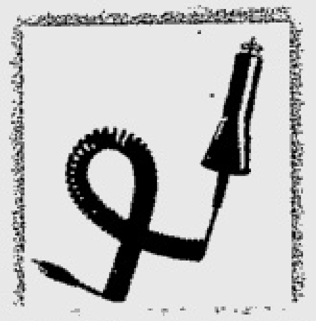
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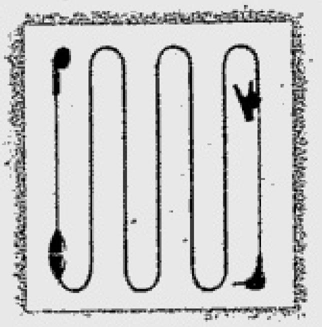
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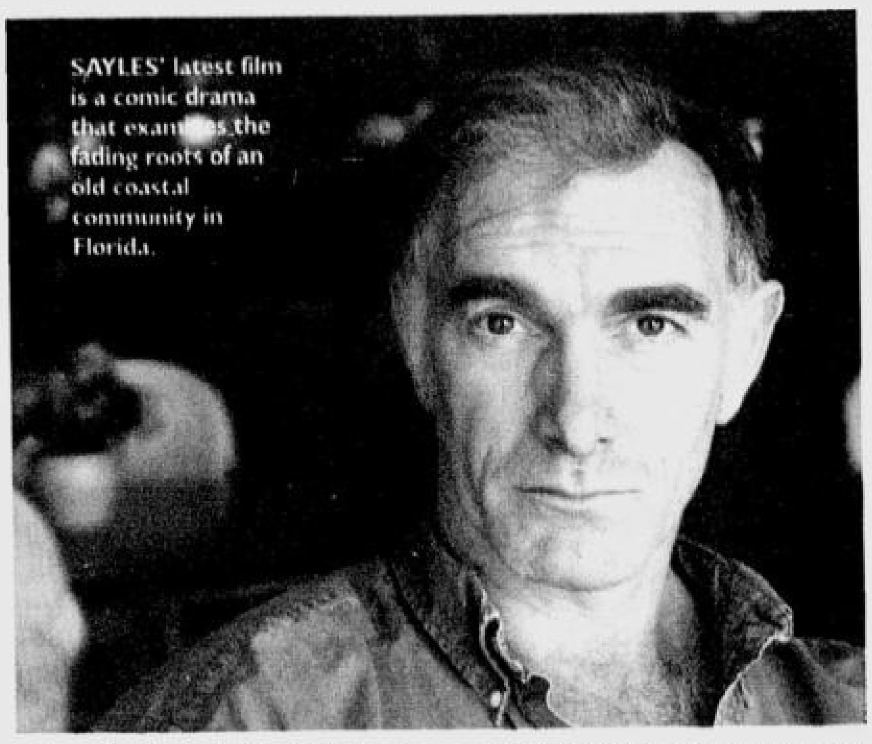
Sayles turns his idiosyncratic lens on 'Sunshine State'

By David Germain



SAYLES' latest film is a comic drama that examines the fading roots of an old coastal community in Florida.

SANTA MONICA, California—Luckily, John Sayles has never had to pass the Hollywood pitch test, tossing out pithy condensations to convince studio executives he had the next "Scooby-Doo" in the making.

Own terms

Sayles, like Woody Allen and the Coen brothers, manages to work with Hollywood on his own terms, crafting low-budget films with singular personal vision that still occasionally connect with fairly wide audiences.

A godfather to modern independent film, Sayles, 51, maintains a profitable "day job" as writer-for-hire on big-budget movies, the income allowing him to pursue his own directing projects.

Sayles probably would have been shown the studio gate after pitching most of his own story lines to big Hollywood:

—Mute, three-toed alien escapes interstellar slavers to seek a new life in Harlem ("The Brother From Another Planet").

—Petulant soap opera star becomes a paraplegic and moves back home to the Louisiana swamps ("Passion Fish").

—Infant on a stark Irish island washes away in his cradle to be raised by seals ("The Secret of Roan Inish").

Ensemble cast

Sayles' latest, "Sunshine State," likely would have earned a pass as well from studios. The film—with an ensemble cast including Edie Falco, Angela Bassett, Mary Steenburgen, Timothy Hutton and Ralph Waite—is an intricate, eccentric examination of a Florida beach community's transition from mom-and-pop tourism to corporate engulfment.

"I truly think the main thing that separates our movies from Hollywood movies is the complexity of the stories," Sayles said in an interview at a beachside hotel. "As a screenwriter, often what I'm asked to do is to simplify, simplify, simplify. Let's have a badder bad guy and a gooder good guy, and let's make this more polarized.

"Whereas my instinct and what I feel comfortable doing when I'm writing for myself is to look for the complexity in the situation."

With biting dialogue, richly layered characters and a passionate but non-preachy social conscience, Sayles' films provoke, amuse, puzzle and disquiet audiences.

"They're gentle and smart and thoughtful. They don't grab anybody by the nose and tell people how they should be feeling at any given moment," Falco said. "The direction of independent filmmaking has not been all that exciting, but he somehow remains true to his belief about things. He doesn't kowtow to anybody.

Valid point of view

"The wonderful thing John does as a storyteller is he gives everybody a valid point of view. He tries not to deal in black and white," said Gordon Clapp, an old college buddy of Sayles who has appeared in four of his films including "Sunshine State." "His films have a very particular point of view and statement, but at the same time, there are no real villains and no real heroes."

Sayles grew up in Schenectady, New York, one of several rust-belt burghs that inspired his 1991 drama "City of Hope."

Coming out of Williams College with a psychology degree in the early 1970s, Sayles worked a string of blue-collar jobs—sausage-factory worker, assistant carpenter, orderly in hospitals and nursing homes.

"I was like the Paul Bunyan of orderlies. I was big and could lift patients and restrain them without hurting them. I wasn't squeamish, so I could do post-mortem care or catheterize people," Sayles said. "I was actually pretty good at it, but I didn't especially want to do that for a living."

AP

'Mulholland Drive' is a mind-bending cinematic puzzle

By Christy Lemire

LYNCH. Whacked-out world.

NEW YORK—Some have hailed "Mulholland Drive" as David Lynch's best film, and it earned him top director honors at this year's Cannes Film Festival, which he split with Joel Coen for "The Man Who Wasn't There."

Baffling

His fans will love the complicated structure, the detailed settings, the dark mood.

Those unimpressed with his work--who typically walk away from a Lynch movie having no idea what they just saw--will dismiss it as baffling and pretentious, as usual.

They're both right.

The film's first two hours are an enthralling, mind-bending puzzle, oozing with atmosphere, punctuated by star-making performances from Naomi Watts and Laura Elena Harring. Then the final half-hour collapses into an incoherent, paranoid hallucination; it's trying so hard to be strange, it's almost a parody of a Lynch movie.

Considering its history, the shift makes sense. "Mulholland Drive" began life as a pilot for an ABC series, the writer-director's first since "Twin Peaks" of the early '90s. The network shelved it, but Lynch found the financing to revive it as a feature film. The last half-hour is his attempt to resolve the plots and characters he would have developed.

Where he previously ripped the pristine lid off suburbia to reveal something dark and sinister with movies like "Blue Velvet," here he turns his attention to a city that's been portrayed as dark and sinister all along: Hollywood.

The title comes from the name of a long street that snakes along the top of the hills that divide Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley. It's also where the first scene takes place.

Accident

A sultry brunette (Harring) riding in the back of a limousine is about to be killed when the car is involved in an accident. She walks away uninjured, down the hill to L.A., where she wanders into an open apartment.

She's lost the memory of who she is, but she's carrying a Donna Karan purse stuffed with cash and a blue key. She takes the name Rita from a poster she sees of Rita Hayworth's "Gilda" and aims to discover her identity with the help of Betty (Watts), who's staying at the apartment temporarily.

Bright-eyed Betty has just arrived in the city from Canada with dreams of stardom. She's so eager, so winsome, you just know something horrible is going to happen to burst her bubble.

Rita and Betty's quest leads them to a seemingly nondescript diner, an apartment where they make a gruesome discovery, and an ornate theater where they watch breathtaking performance art.

Director

They also come across a director (Justin Theroux) whose film is being held hostage by weirdo mobsters. Ann Miller plays Betty's landlady, a stereotype of Hollywood's brassy old guard, and Lee Grant is almost unrecognizable in a cameo as a raving psychic.

They all add to Lynch's atmosphere of old-style Hollywood glitz, with shimmering swimming pools, stunning hillside views, and self-important directors and producers. But much of it is shot with a faded, soft-focus look, giving it the vibe of a B-movie.

The much-hyped love scene between Rita and Betty, though, is surprisingly not gratuitous—which is remarkable given Lynch's propensity for shocking sexual imagery.

Just when you think you've spent enough time in Lynch's whacked-out world to figure out the territory, he yanks you in another direction. You think you know the players, but then they swap parts. This is what makes him one of the most innovative—and infuriating—filmmakers today.

Lynch likes to leave twists open for interpretation. That's much of his allure. But the ending of "Mulholland Drive" is so sloppy, it's more annoying than awe-inspiring.

AP

Celebrating the pleasures and peculiarities of small-town family life

By Michael Kuchwara

NEW YORK—Myrtle Brown doesn't know what she's getting into, marrying Homer Bolton. Granted, they have been engaged for seven years and were going together for four or five years before that, according to Homer's Aunt Cora.

Family

But then Myrtle is not getting just Homer—she's getting the whole family, and family is what "Morning's at Seven," Paul Osborn's homespun and very human comedy, is all about.

Osborn's play was something of a late bloomer. It didn't fare very well during its original 1939 Broadway run, lasting only 44 performances, despite the star power of Dorothy Gish and the direction of Joshua Logan. Maybe it was hard to compete during a season that had already produced such comedy blockbusters as "Life with Father" and "The Man Who Came to Dinner."

Yet a 1980 Broadway revival was an unexpected success, running more than a year. Audiences responded to its gentle humor, its recognizable characters and its celebration of the pleasures and peculiarities of small-town life.

And there's no reason why they shouldn't embrace the play once again, judging from the charming picture-postcard production Lincoln Center Theater opened Sunday on Broadway.

Vibrant actresses

To start with, this "Morning's at Seven" has four vibrant actresses—Estelle Parsons, Piper Laurie, Elizabeth Franz and Frances Sternhagen—playing the quartet of sisters who dominate the action. Three of the four siblings live in the two Victorian houses, designed in all their gingerbread glory by John Lee Beatty, that sit side by side on the stage of the Lyceum Theater.

PARSONS. Deceptively mild-mannered.

It's in these two Midwestern backyards, complete with grass, trees and a rose bush or two, where Osborn's family feuds erupt. Erupt may be too strong a word. This is a play where not much seems to happen--at least in terms of plot.

But there is a lot going when you start to examine the fussing that occurs when Homer decides to bring home his longtime fiance to meet the folks. Director Daniel Sullivan has artfully choreographed the domestic fireworks so they seem natural, deceptively calm despite the swirling passions just below the surface.

"Morning's at Seven" contains quite a parade of people, each one distinct and affectionately drawn. At age 40, Homer (played with an almost childlike wonder by Stephen Tobolowsky) is overwhelmed by his dithering yet domineering mother (Sternhagen) and his oddball father (Christopher Lloyd), a man given to spells and wondering about the paths he didn't take in life, such as trying to become a dentist.

Right mixture

This nearly confirmed bachelor can't seem to make up his mind about his sweet-tempered fiancee, who, despite her baby-doll voice, knows, in the end, how to control things. A delightful Julie Hagerty finds the right mixture of simpering and steel for the woman.

Then there's deceptively mild-mannered Aunt Cora (Parsons) and commonsensical Uncle Thor (William Biff McGuire), who live next door with Aunt Arry (Franz). She's a vinegar-tinged spinster who says things like, "Trouble with me is I never saw a man who was worth the powder to blow him up with."

Aunt Esther (Laurie) and Uncle David (Buck Henry) live up the block. David, a one-time college professor, doesn't hold his in-laws in very high regard, primarily because they "don't think about important enough things." David does, of course, all the time, a condition that exasperates his patient wife.

This is truly an ensemble cast, but several of the actors do stand out, particularly Franz, who, in the Gish role, makes an ornery lady likable, vulnerable and even touching.

Underplaying

Special mention should be made, too, of McGuire, who knows the fine art of underplaying and how to give yeoman support to the more showy performers in the production.

Osborn, who died in 1988, was best known for his screenplays for film versions of such well-known works as "The Yearling," "East of Eden," "Sayonara" and "South Pacific."

Yet in "Morning's at Seven," he demonstrated a knack for small, familiar moments of crisis and comedy. "Things get tangled up," sighs one of the family members, trying to explain what exactly went wrong. Well yes, they do. Especially when relatives are involved. But Osborn makes all that family bickering downright enjoyable.

AP

Reality TV invades American courtrooms in new docu and drama series

By Steve Gorman

LOS ANGELES—When it comes to America's criminal justice system, veteran television producer Dick Wolf makes no secret about where his sympathies lie.

NBC drama

Wolf is definitely a "Law & Order" man, in keeping with the title of his long-running, ripped-from-the-headlines NBC drama about New York City police detectives and prosecutors.

"I don't hold criminal defense attorneys in very high regard, based on what they do for a living, which in most cases is get guilty people off," he said in a recent conference call promoting his latest project—a documentary series about San Diego prosecutors called "Crime & Punishment." "I know it's an adversarial system, and I know a good defense is everybody's right," he said. "But I'm not particularly in favor of people being paid a great deal of money for prevarication and obfuscation, which are hallmarks of a good defense." In filming real-life courtroom action for his documentary series, Wolf said the feeling was mutual. Although San Diego's prosecutors welcomed his camera crews, he found that defense lawyers were less comfortable with their presence.

Defense attorneys

"Defense attorneys are not prepared to show you what's going on behind the scene," he said. "Basically, with defense attorneys, you're turning over rocks. They don't like that." It's no surprise, then, that "Crime & Punishment," which covers 15 criminal trials over 13 nights, is told from a decidedly prosecutorial point of view. It is, after all, billed as "a real-life Law & Order." Much like Wolf's fictional drama series, defense lawyers are rarely shown outside the courtroom, while there are ample behind-the-scenes moments with the assistant district attorneys as they strategize, exercise and talk shop with spouses.

But if Wolf's team found defense lawyers stand-offish, ABC News managed to capture a broader view of criminal trials in its own five-part documentary, "State v.."

That series, chronicling five cases over five nights, takes cameras inside the offices of both prosecutors and defense attorneys as they prepare for trial. And it scores an additional coup by giving viewers a rare glimpse of jury deliberations. Judges even consented to filming of closed-door proceedings in their chambers.

Special order

"State v." producers obtained a special order from the Arizona Supreme Court giving them entree to the jury room for a series of homicide cases in the state's Superior Court in Maricopa County, which includes the city of Phoenix.

But producer Michael Bicks said he had to negotiate access separately with each of the judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys involved in those cases. For example, because the presence of TV cameras intrudes on the attorney-client privilege that keeps defendants' conversations with their lawyers confidential, prosecutors had to agree not to subpoena any of the taped discussions between the accused and their attorneys.

"Everybody played by the rules completely through the whole thing," Bicks said. "Both the prosecutors and the defense lawyers are integral to our democracy, and both sides realize that. And they are actually less combative and have more respect for each other than you would expect." As one Arizona prosecutor wryly puts it, the only thing she has against the high-priced defense lawyer she's up against is that "he makes more money than I do." "State v." also differs from Wolf's project by using a host, ABC News senior legal correspondent Cynthia McPadden, to provide some of the narrative, while "Crime & Punishment" is presented in more of a *verite* style.

Both series were shot with multiple video cameras operated by remote-control to make filming less obtrusive. And both boil trial footage down to dramatic highlights, edited to fit nicely around commercial breaks. That makes them unlike any of the real-time trials routinely shown on cable's Court TV, which is notorious for cutting away to advertisements just when the testimony starts to get juicy.

Fluffier favorites

Still, the two courtroom docu-series represent a new, more sober brand of "reality TV" making its way onto primetime this summer, along with fluffier favorites like "Fear Factor," "Big Brother 3" and "The Mole II: The Next Betrayal." "We are trying to put reality back in reality television," said Bill Guttentag, an executive producer and co-creator of "Crime & Punishment." "At the end of this show, when they put the cuffs on them, they're really going to San Quentin for 94 years." Wolf touts his series as a "drama-mentary" that is "fundamentally a show about district attorneys." Bicks describes his ABC News series as a piece of journalism in which viewers "get to watch . . . at every step of the way." Both offer compelling real-life drama that is not always easy to watch. In one "Crime & Punishment" segment, a 4-year-old girl takes the witness stand with her doll to answer questions under oath about how she was sexually molested by her mother's boyfriend.

In one episode of "State v.," the audience might feel sympathetic toward the disabled defendant in a vehicular manslaughter case who faces prison time for an accident that claimed the life of his passenger, a cousin who was like a brother.

Different perspectives

In keeping with the different perspectives of "State v." and "Crime & Punishment," the producers of each came away with varied impressions of the justice system they documented.

Wolf said he was struck by the dedication of the assistant district attorneys he observed. "Every prosecutor I've talked to . . . shared one thing in common, which is that they really feel that they're doing God's work." Bicks said his experience left him "less jatded" about the justice system generally, and about juries in particular.

"Democracy is really messy, and that's the beauty of it," he said. "Some of these juries are extremely raucous. People often voice opinions that some people will be offended by. But, in the end, through the wisdom of a widely divergent group of people, some intelligent and just decisions are made."

Reuters

> 'Democracy is really messy, and that's the beauty of it. Some juries are extremely raucous. But, in the end, through the wisdom of a widely divergent group of people, some intelligent and just decisions are made'

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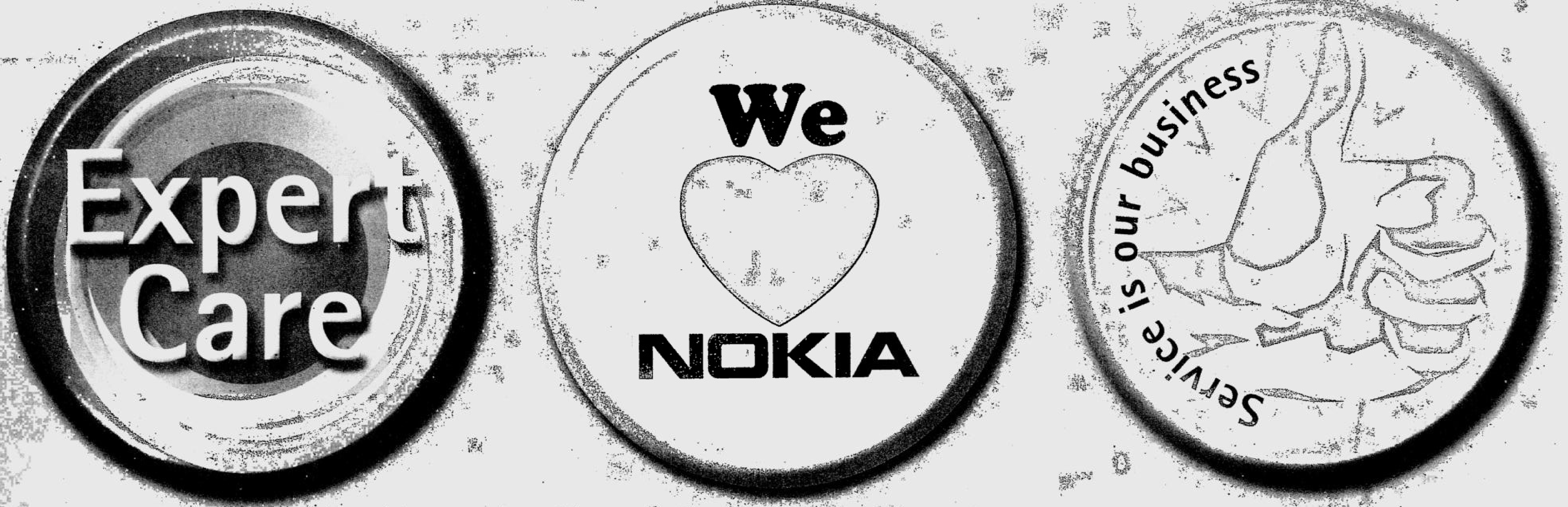

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Dr. Seuss' hometown prepares to unveil national memorial

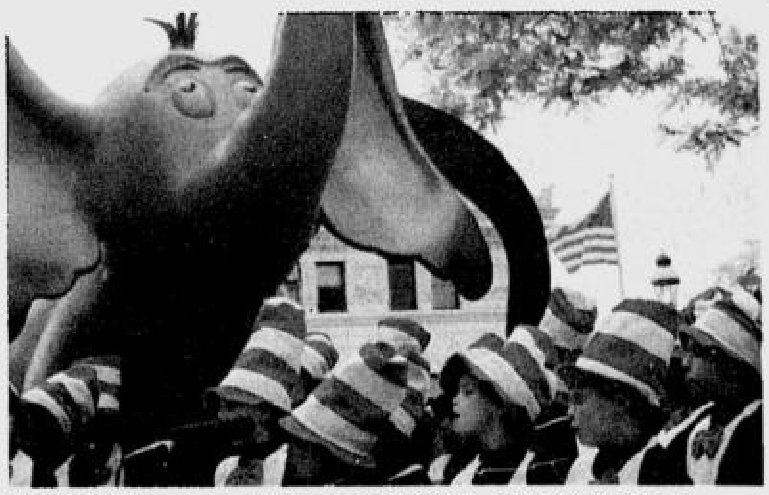
By Trudy Tynan

SPRINGFIELD, Massachusetts—Not in a boat. Not in a tree. A child's city he drew. It was different you see.

The New England city where a zoo superintendent's son, named Theodor Geisel, grew into children's book author Dr. Seuss, is preparing to unveil a national memorial to the creator of the "Cat in the Hat."

Special magic

Every child knows a staid, bronze bust just wouldn't do for the man who wrote "Green Eggs and Ham." So, in keeping with his special magic, Geisel is being remembered with a sculpture garden of the fantastical critters he brought to life in his books.



CHILDREN from a local Springfield, Mass., elementary school, dressed as the character Cat in the Hat, perform songs in sculpture garden. (AP Photo/Nancy Palmieri)

Draped for the formal unveiling—with only an insouciant topknot and Horton The Elephant's trunk peeking out—the sculptures frolic on the wide green linking the city library and its four museums that gave wing to the author's imagination.

"He often said that he spent more time here than in school," said library and museum director Joseph Carvalho.

The opening of the $6.2 million sculpture garden will launch a weekend of Seussian celebrations for young and old, including a "read-a-thon" and a parade down Mulberry Street, whose whimsical Victorian homes were the setting for Geisel's first book, "To Think I Saw It on Mulberry Street," published in 1937.

Multiple arches

Although he spent most of his adult life in Southern California, images of his childhood city of inventors and industrialists appear throughout Geisel's books—the multiple arches of a bridge, the triple smokestacks of a plant, the bushy eyebrows of a department store magnate who made his clerks work on Christmas Day.

All of it filtered through the imagination of a young boy, lying in bed a few blocks from the zoo, listening to the roars of lions.

"We hope to spark imagination and creativity in a new generation," Carvalho said. "It's all still here."

Geisel, who died in 1991, is depicted at his drawing board, with the Cat in the Hat peering over his shoulder.

"If you are 4 or 5 years old, you can look right into his eyes," said sculptor Lark Grey Dimond-Cates, Geisel's stepdaughter.

"That's just the way he sat when he was dreaming up something with one foot on the table and his hands over his knees."

She worked for seven years translating her stepfather's drawings into bronze. In keeping with her mother Audrey's wishes, they had to be at least life-sized and something on which children could climb. Dimond-Cates said she tried to depict them as he would.

Tribute

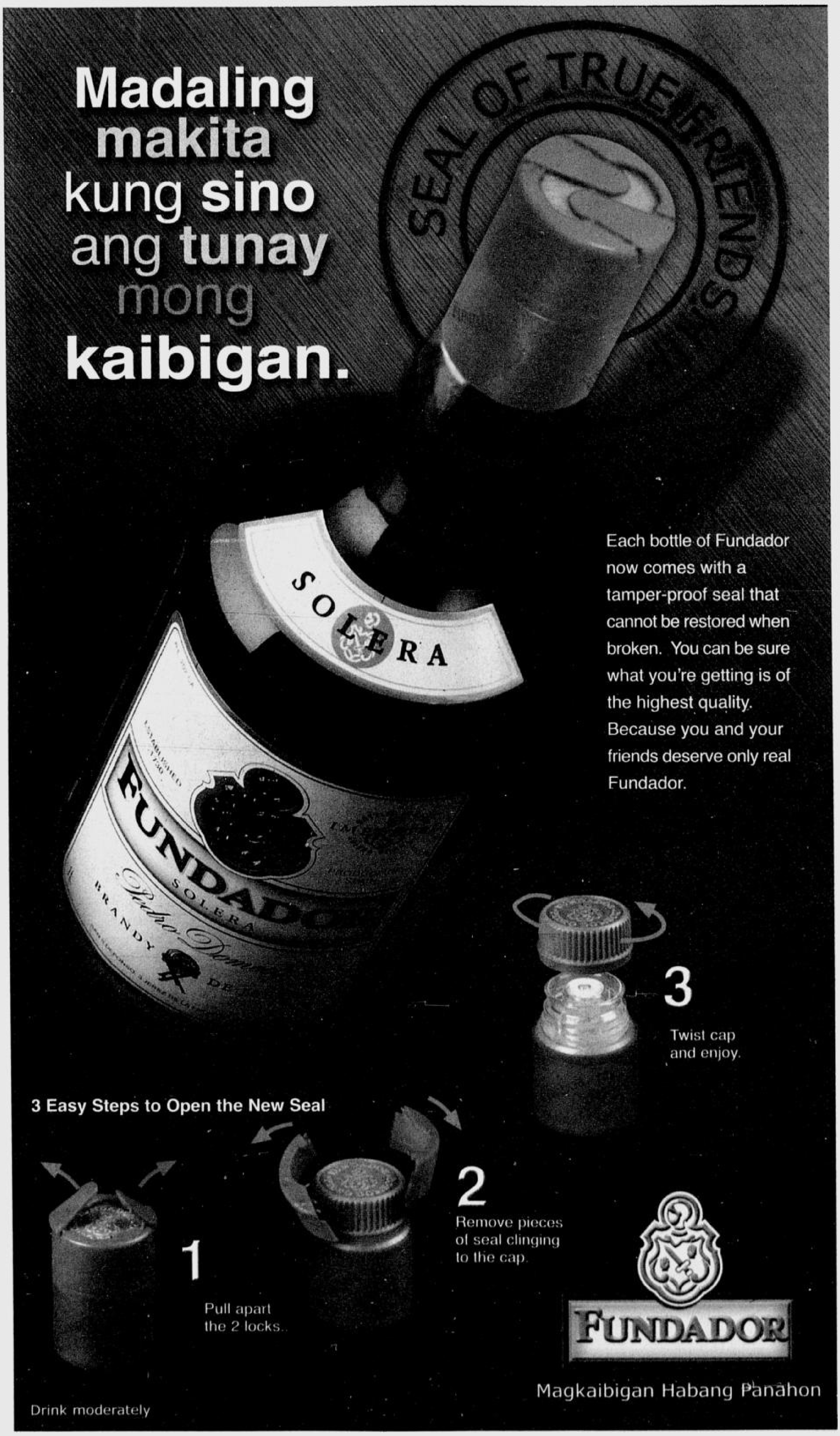
"I got to feel as if I was working with Ted," she said, acknowledging that the work became her own tribute to the gentle man, who fostered her interest in art. Sometimes, she said, she would even talk to him as if he was there.

A 14-foot-high Horton, carrying the thistle on which tiny Whoville rests, squats on a massive open book. Also spilling out of the book are Thidwick-the-Big-Hearted-Moose, Sam-I-Am with a plate of green eggs and ham, Sally and her brother, and Thing One and Thing Two.

Yertle and a teetering 10-foot-high tower of turtles rise from a reflecting pool by the art museum. The Lorax, carrying the environmental warning "Unless ...," stands guard outside the science museum.

The Grinch, which Dimond-Cates said "came out almost better in bronze, more twisted and a little more evil," peers around an empty storyteller's chair.

The chair is backed by a 10-foot-tall book with Gertrude McFuzz perched on top. The bronze book carries the complete text of Dr. Seuss' final work, "Oh, the Places You'll Go!" AP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Bergman to give historic look behind the scenes

STOCKHOLM—Swedish filmmaking legend Ingmar Bergman will annotate and edit behind-the-scenes films describing the making of 18 of his movies as part of a donation of his private archives, the Swedish Film Institute said Monday.

Manuscripts

Bergman, 83, recently donated manuscripts, notebooks, plot summaries, unpublished books, sketches and photographs as well as the previously unseen footage to the institute.

Bergman will narrate excerpts from the footage of the making of "Wild Strawberries" (1957), "The Seventh Seal" (1957), "Persona" (1966), "Cries and Whispers" (1972) and "After the Rehearsal" (1984), among others.

Instead of leaving researchers and film buffs wanting for answers after his death, Bergman agreed to donate the material now and help researchers go through it.

"This would be worth a fortune if it were sold on the market. But it will not be sold," said the head of the Swedish Film Institute, Ase Kleveland.

Researchers

The material will be made available to researchers and educational establishments, though the aim is to provide the general public with access.

Maaret Koskinen, professor of cinema studies at the University of Stockholm, was the first person Bergman asked to study the collection.

"'I have a room full of stuff. Do you want to go through it?', Bergman asked me," she said, describing the archives as a "unique cultural work." Koskinen will publish a book this autumn on the material. After the death of his wife of 25 years, Ingrid, in 1995, he described life as "a comfortable hell" and said he would be ready to commit suicide.

Bergman has lived in seclusion on the Baltic Sea island of Gotland since her death.

He is at work on the movie "Saraband," returning after 30 years to Marianne and Johan, the couple portrayed by Liv Ullmann and Erland Josephson in the 1972 movie "Scenes From a Marriage." *AFP*

ABC to bring back 'Dragnet' to primetime TV

By Steve Gorman

LOS ANGELES--The story you are about to hear is true: ABC is bringing 'Dragnet' back to primetime television.

The Walt Disney Co. owned network has ordered 13 episodes of an updated version of the pioneering police drama from producer Dick Wolf, creator of the long-running NBC hit series "Law and Order," ABC said recently.

According to entertainment trade paper Daily Variety, ABC agreed to pay $1.4 million per episode for the new "Dragnet," which is expected to be launched in mid-season next year.

Wolf will write and executive-produce the series, said a spokesman for Universal Television, the Vivendi Universal unit producing the series with Wolf Films.

Detective

Wolf told Variety his "Dragnet" would reconceptualize the original TV show created by actor-director Jack Webb, who also played the deadpan, no-nonsense main character, detective Joe Friday.

"Hopefully, this will be as much of a new show as the feature version of 'The Fugitive' was to the original series," he said.

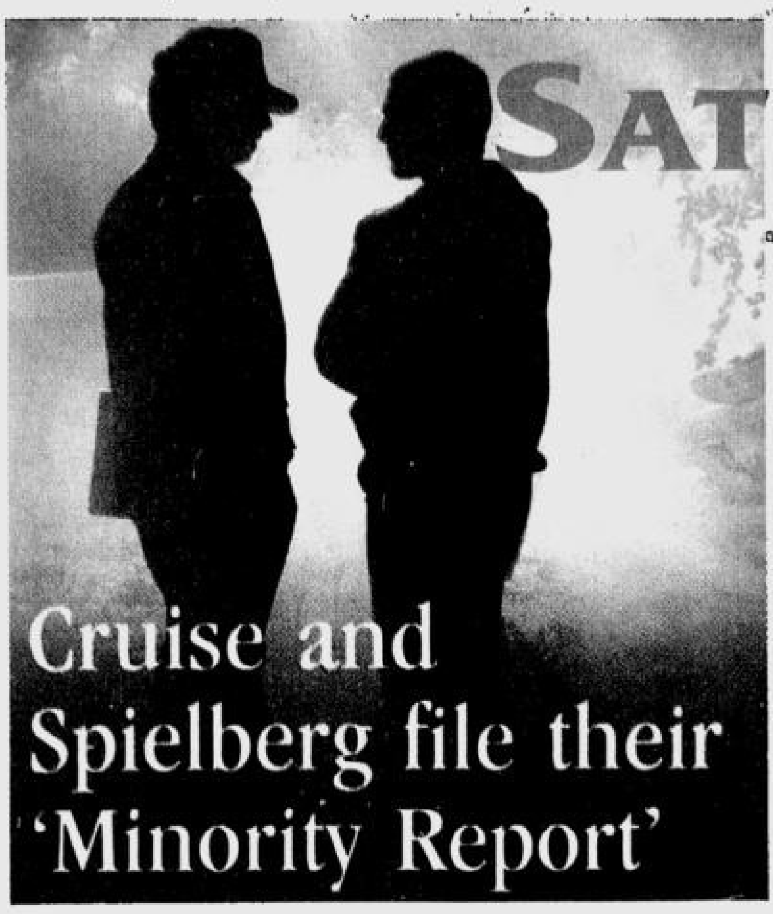
"It's going to be a millennium treatment of a cop show." No casting decisions have been made, and it was not immediately clear whether the character of Joe Friday would be resurrected for the new show.

Realistic format

"Dragnet," which grew out of a radio drama of the same name, began its original 7 1/2-year TV run on NBC in January 1952. Its realistic format quickly caught on with viewers and distinguished the series from the cliche portrayals that were more typical of TV cops and private eyes of that era.

Reuters

SATURDAY *Special*



Cruise and Spielberg file their 'Minority Report'

SPIELBERG AND CRUISE. Co-workers at last.

By David Germain

LOS ANGELES—Cruise and Spielberg, together on the same bill. Took long enough.

Tom Cruise and Steven Spielberg—friends since the actor shot to stardom with 1983's "Risky Business" and joined the director as one of the demigods of modern Hollywood—spent years kicking around ideas for a joint project.

Early script

It wasn't until Cruise came across an early script for the sci-fi thriller "Minority Report," based on a Philip K. Dick short story, that they found something that grabbed them both.

"I don't know why it took so long, quite honestly," three-time Academy Award nominee Cruise said in an interview. "This was simply a film that I got excited about and he got excited about."

"We've tried for 10, 12 years, sending things to each other, saying what about this, what about that? We've come close on a couple of occasions," said Spielberg, who won best-directing Oscars for "Schindler's List" and "Saving Private Ryan." "As desirous as we assume actors are to work with directors and directors to work with actors, it's got to be the right idea, the right material, the right time."

The gritty, film-noirish "Minority Report" follows what were arguably the most enigmatic and un-Hollywood films each man has made.

Puzzler

Cruise, reuniting with his "Jerry Maguire" director Cameron Crowe, was coming off the reality-warping puzzler "Vanilla Sky," a remake of an obscure Spanish film. For Spielberg, it was the even more mystifying "A.I. Artificial Intelligence," a project bequeathed to him by Stanley Kubrick's family.

Spielberg, 55, and Cruise, who turns 40 in July, have amassed such clout that they can step out on limbs and break with the commercial conventions that got them where they are.

"I've always wanted to have that opportunity. Even when you look back, people thought I was crazy when I did 'Born on the Fourth of July,' or 'Rain Man,' also. With those movies back to back, some people were saying give us another 'Top Gun,'" Cruise said.

"I actually thought about doing 'Top Gun 2'. We sat down, couldn't figure it out and thought, why do it? Believe it or not, I make a lot of money, but I don't do it for that reason. I just look for really good material, something that I really want to do."

In "Minority Report," Cruise plays the head of a police corps in 2054 that relies on three "precognitive" humans to identify people about to commit murder, allowing officers to prevent the crimes and imprison the perpetrators-to-be. Cruise's character winds up on the run after he's fingered for a future murder himself.

Disfigured visage

Like "Vanilla Sky," in which Cruise hides behind a mask and a disfigured visage for much of the time, "Minority Report" plays with the actor's pretty-boy features. He's beaten and bruised. His face is hidden by bandages after gruesome surgery to conceal his identity and dodge omnipresent eye-scanning devices. He puts on a mask that morphs his face into that of a weathered old man.

For the director's part, "Minority Report"—despite elaborate sets and visual effects—has a dark, scruffy look that runs counter to the kaleidoscopic eye candy of such Spielberg films as "Jurassic Park" and "E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial."

While both recently have done uncharacteristically broody films, that does not mean their big, pure entertainment popcorn flicks are behind them.

"If the right piece of material comes along that stimulates the child in me and stimulates the adult that I am, then I'll jump on board without hesitation," Spielberg said. "It's whatever really inspires me, whatever comes into my life that inspires me.

"I don't do career planning. I don't sit down and say, 'OK, now I have to make a small personal film after these big leviathans.' I don't think that way. If I make two leviathans and a great third leviathan came along, I'd do that."

Chase film

Spielberg is finishing the chase film "Catch Me If You Can," due in theaters late this year. It stars Leonardo DiCaprio as a master con man pursued by an FBI agent, played by

CRUISE AND SPIELBERG/ p. F2

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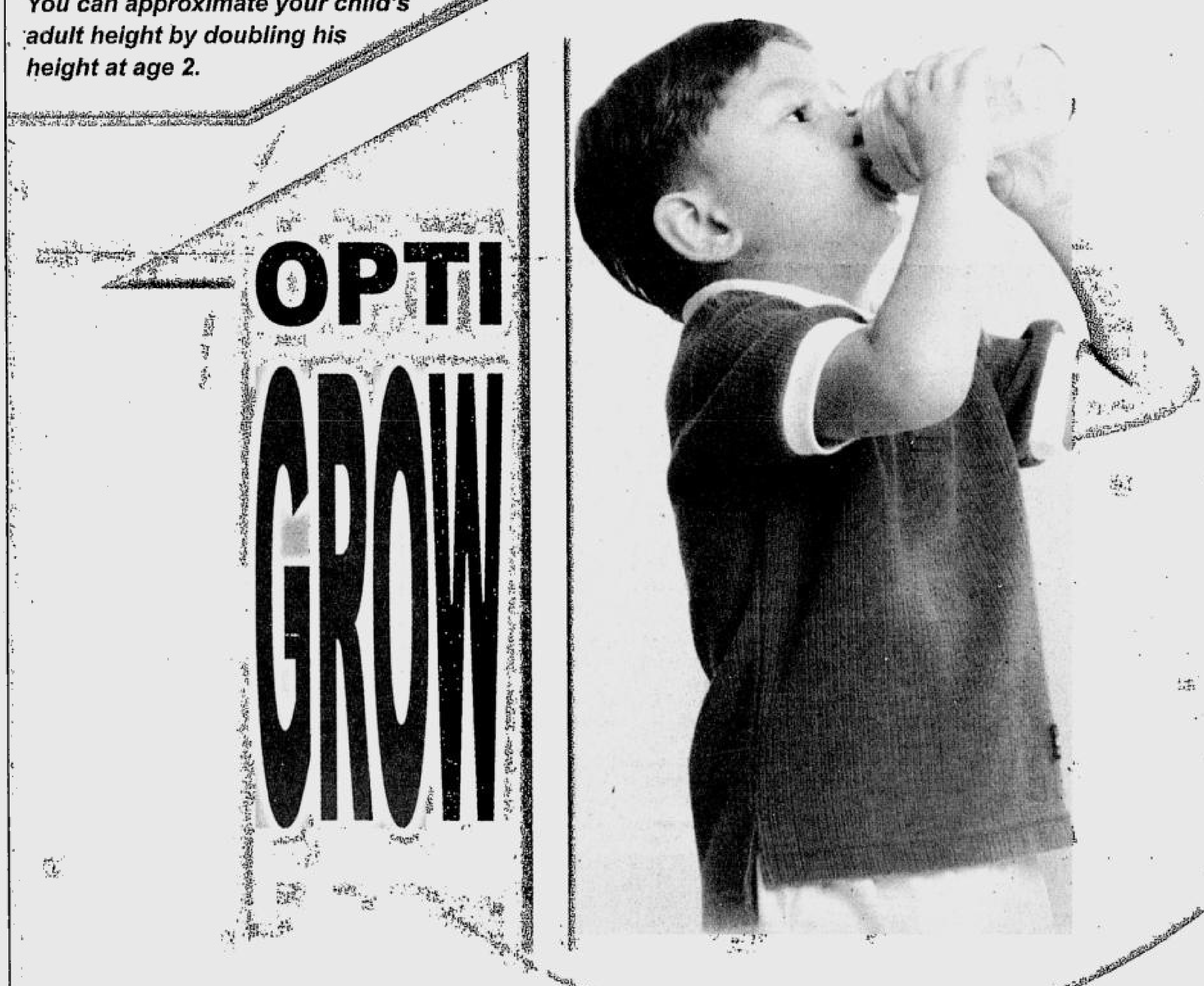

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ABBOTT NUTRITIONALS

Aaron Carter's star continues to shine

WE would like to thank our readers for the kind words and for the letters that have kept us "entertained" for the last couple of months. This week, we have updates on the casting of "The Lord of the Rings" second installment, Nick Carter's younger brother Aaron, and then some.

On a personal note but still on entertainment, we would like to invite you to the performances of two stage plays we are proud to be a part of: "Sundin ang Loob Mo," the play in Filipino on the beautiful and inspiring life of the Catholic Church's latest Saint, Padre Pio (for sponsorship and performances, call 713-9323), and New Voice Company's Tony-Award winning English sung-through musical, "Falsettos," at the Music Museum (call 8965497). See you at the theater!

Write us: Philippine Daily Inquirer, Saturday Special section, Show Biz Q and A, Chino Roces ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo sts., Makati City.

This week's Q and A:

"Thank you for featuring Viggo Mortensen. That was really cool! I've been a fan of the Tolkien books for 10 years now, so you can just imagine how elated I was upon learning that

SHOW BIZ Q & A

Rito P. Asilo

Peter Jackson was filming all three books. Orlando Bloom, who was so cute in the movie, was my favorite in the movie.

"I hope the actors who will portray Eomir and Faramir in the next installments will be at par with Bloom in looks and talent. Please continue featuring 'adult heartthrobs.' *Dapat naman talaga hindi lang* youth *ang kini*-cater to *ninyo kasi* adults *talaga ang bumibili ng broadsheets*."—*Ana Leah Fermin, Baguio.*

We enjoyed reading your long letter. Yes, this column does not only cater to the teenage set but also to people of all ages. We do have good news for you: The actors who will portray Eomer, the Third Marshal of the Mark, and Faramir are exciting actors, too, and are no lightweights in the acting and looks department.

Australian actor David Wenham will breath life into Faramir. He was seen in Baz Luhrman's "Moulin Rouge," as Audrey. The 36-year-old actor won the Australian Film Institute's Best Actor for a TV Drama trophy in 1997 for "Babies," and was also nominated for 1997's "The Boys," 1998's "Sea Change," 2000's "Better than Sex" and last year's "The Bank."

Impressive, huh? He'll appear next in the movie adaptation of the TV docu show, "Crocodile Hunter: Collision Course" and in "Pure."

The casting of Eomir's character may even be more exciting to "TLOTR" fans. He will be portrayed by New Zealand actor Karl Urban, whom we saw in last December's Cinemanila Filmfest screening of the New Zealand film, "The Price of Milk." Let's just say that the 30-year-old actor can pass as Brad Pitt's twin brother. Need we say more?

"I am the biggest fan of Aaron Carter. Does he have a girlfriend? What is he up to these days? Any update?"—*Alexis Joson, Manila.*

It is hard to confirm the romantic status of celebrities because they either play coy or noncommittal. It looks like Aaron, who is growing up to be such a looker that he will soon give brother Nick a run for his Backstreet money, is just playing the field for now. After all, he is just 14 years old (born Dec. 7, 1987)!

It was rumored, though, that he used to date young singer/stage actress Nikki Webster. More recent stories have come out about a romance between Aaron and Disney Channel star and recording artist Hillary Duff ("Lizzie McGuire"). No confirmation there, sorry. Meanwhile, let us allow the boy to enjoy his childhood.

As for updates, Aaron recently appeared in a February episode (titled "Beach Blanket Bizarro") of "Sabrina, The Teenage Witch" in the US. We suggest you watch out for the airing of that episode here in the Philippines soon over ABC-5.

So far, Aaron, acknowledged to be the "youngest male solo artist to have four Top 40s singles," has waxed four solo albums (1998's "Aaron Carter," "Surfin' USA," "Aaron's Party" and last year's "Oh Aaron"), and may just come up with a new compilation in August this year. Pretty prolific for one so young, huh?

ODED Fehr (left) with Brendan Fraser in "The Mummy."

"My family loves epic adventure films, like 'The Mummy' and its sequel, 'The Scorpion King' and 'Gladiator.' My sister is an avid fan of Oded Fehr, the mysterious man-in-black with the bird in the 'Mummy' franchise. It'll be a great birthday treat for her if you feature him, because very little is known about him."—*Ryan Alon, Muntinlupa City.*

Oded Fehr was born on Nov. 23, 1970 in Tel Aviv, Israel. He served in the Israeli navy and attended a drama school in Bristol, England, after a brief drama class in Frankfurt, Germany. He met his wife, Rhonda Tollefron, in December 2000 at an LA opera.

The 6'2" actor, who portrayed "The Mummy's" Ardeth Bay, was also seen in "Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo" (1999) and in last year's "Texas Rangers," with Dylan McDermott and Rachel Leigh Cook.

On TV, he was seen in "Cleopatra" (1999), "Arabian Nights" (2000) and in the series "Presidio Med" and "UC: Undercover."

Gary V. and Aiza Seguerra wax their most personal albums

By Remy M. Umerez

GARY Valenciano and Aiza Seguerra, two of the country's top entertainers, have waxed what they consider their most personal albums.

Nothing could be more personal than singing and performing songs with co-artists who are dear to your heart. In Gary's case, "One 2 One " is a personal triumph.

Duets

The all-star production from Viva Records is made up entirely of duets. Gary carefully screened the songs to be featured, both old favorites and new compositions. The guest artists are colleagues whose talent he respects and admires.

The album continues to score high in the music charts with the R&B version of "Can We Just Stop and Talk a While," the classic composition by Jose Mari Chan.

Gary has always admired Jose Mari's songs for their simplicity, rhymes and romantic mood. Innocence and purity of the heart, he observes, are vital ingredients in a song by Chan.

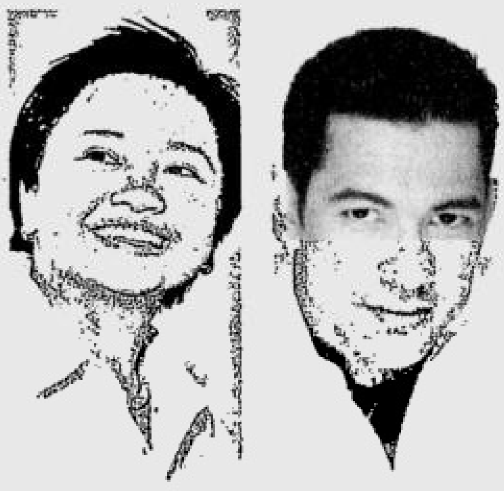
For the music video of "Can We Just Stop and Talk a While," in which Gary duets with pop princess Kayla, they simply followed the flow of the song. The result was a very natural visualization.

The line-up of artists who duet with Gary includes Sharon Cuneta ("Somewhere, Somehow"), Zsa Zsa Padilla ("Kung Mawawala Ka"), Kuh Ledesma ("A Long and Lasting Love"), Jinky Vidal of Freestyle ("Always"), Vina Morales ("Gusto Kita"), Lani Misalucha ("Things Are Not the Same"), Bituin Escalante ("Hourglass"), Pam G. ("Ikaw Lang Pala"), Mary Ann Casal-Soriano ("It's Okay") and Battery ("Man I Am").

Gary produced and directed a video of "Historia de Un Amor," which he performs in the album with his mother, Grimi.

Potential hit single

For her part, certified hitmaker Aiza Seguerra has released another potential hit single from her platinum album "Pinakamamahal" under Vicor, from the winning tandem of Moy Ortiz and Edith Gallardo.



AIZA AND GARY. Perform both old favorites and new compositions.

The new single, "Palagay Ko Mahal Kita," is a song that a lot of people can relate to, especially those who can express what they feel for someone special. The song will set the mood for a sweet romance.

What makes this album truly personal is the fact that most of the selections are Aiza's favorites.

The inclusion of "True Love," for instance, is her way of saying "Thank you" to her parents, to whom the song bears a special significance.

The inspirational "Ikaw na ang Bahala" conveys the message that anything is possible if you have faith in the Lord.

"Palagay Ko Mahal Kita," a strong follow-up to Aiza's hit single "Akala Mo," is also lifted from "Pinakamamahal."

Other songs in the album include "Pakisabi Na Lang," and Aiza's versions of "Power of Two," "Sa Ugoy ng Duyan" and "Kapag Puso and Nag-uusap."

Cruise and Spielberg . . .

From p. F1

Spielberg's "Saving Private Ryan" star Tom Hanks.

After that, Spielberg has two or three films in development and will choose one of those to shoot next year. In 2004, he plans to reunite with Harrison Ford and George Lucas on a fourth "Indiana Jones" movie.

Cruise has a third "Mission: Impossible" film in the works. He also is producing and might star in a remake of H.G. Wells' "War of the Worlds."

While a gushing enthusiast about his films, Cruise clams up about his personal life, including his breakup last year from Nicole Kidman and his relationship with Penelope Cruz, whom he has dated since last summer. Cruise answers personal questions politely but hesitantly and tersely.

How's the relationship now with Kidman, with whom Cruise has two adopted children?

"It's great," Cruise said.

Any wedding plans with Cruz?

"She's a lovely person, lovely. A genuinely good person," Cruise said. "It's nice and we're just enjoying it. There's no plans, no plans."

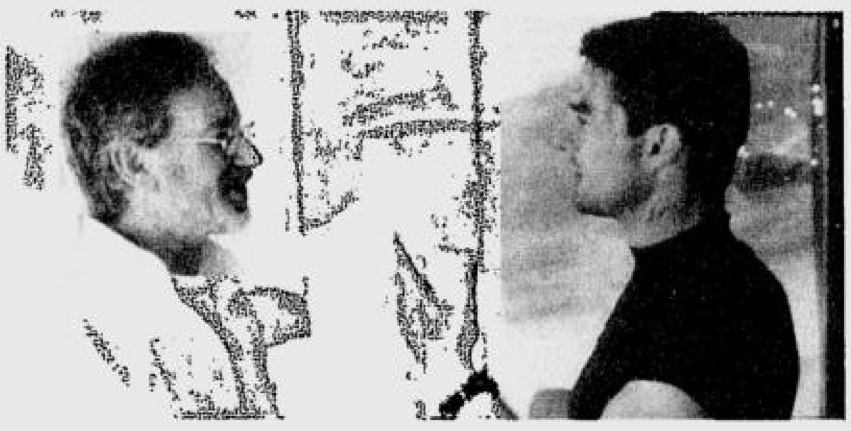
How bothersome are the personal questions?

"I know I'm going to get it," Cruise said. "Every now and then you get someone who's just—you know, this is stuff I don't discuss with anyone, and it steps over a line of common decency. I am a human being. But I understand it."

Lack of privacy

Lack of privacy was one of many themes that resonated with Cruise and Spielberg in "Minority Report." The film presents a world where, along with psychics peering into people's unconscious thoughts, police can monitor the whereabouts of everyone by eye scans.

That same technology allows advertisers and retailers to identify passers-by and instantly create personalized marketing pitches based on their past consumer habits. In one scene, as Cruise's character hurries through a corridor trying to maintain a low profile, holographic ads call out to him by name like high-tech carnival barkers.



SPIELBERG AND CRUISE. Both concerned about loss of privacy.

Spielberg convened a three-day think tank with 23 scholars and futurists to help create his mid-21st century world. Pervasive individualized advertising was one thing the scholars unanimously agreed that the near future would bring, Spielberg said.

"There'll be spot-selling in the future where they will be able to read your eyes, know who you are, know what you like, know what you won't like, and they'll be able to shuffle what you want to buy and remind you that this is right around the corner if you choose to buy it today," Spielberg said.

Besides prompting contemplation about the future, "Minority Report," with its examination of free will and predetermination, gave Cruise and Spielberg food for thought about whether they owe their success more to fate or their own efforts.

Both men tend to think it was a little of each.

"I think I was lucky. But I also believe that people make their own way in the world," Cruise said. "Certainly, I've had a tremendous amount of luck . . . What you do with that is up to the individual. How you live your life. You create your own luck after a certain point."

God's plan

Spielberg quotes David Geffen, a partner in his DreamWorks movie studio, who "always says, 'There's your plan and there's God's plan, and yours don't count.'"

"Realistically, I think that there are certain things in our lives that we have to work really hard to cause not to happen," Spielberg said. "I have more ethereal beliefs that we are predestined to follow maps that we don't draw, and at the same time, I want to believe that most of my decisions are decisions that I'm determining. That no one can determine for me."

Cruise and Spielberg are determined to try to collaborate again on future projects. Spielberg noted that Cruise once did a full script read-through for a film that he never made but which still might go into production some day.

"It was such a great experience working with him," Cruise said. "I wish I had four movies under my belt with him at this stage." *AP*

Earn the power
to move from here...

'Les Miserables' musical heads for China

By Wei Gu

NEW YORK—The Great White Way meets the Great Wall in a few days when "Les Miserables," the second longest running production on Broadway, becomes the first to play in the world's most populous nation.

16 days

"Les Miserables," based on Victor Hugo's classic novel that sweeps through three turbulent decades of 19th century French history, will make its China debut in Shanghai late this month and play for 16 days at the Shanghai Grand Theater.

The production, which will be performed in English with Chinese subtitles at the top of the stage, comes after five years of negotiations to overcome logistical problems and prohibitive costs.

The idea of bringing Broadway's white lights to China came in 1994, when producer Cameron Mackintosh visited Shanghai during "Les Miserables'" Asia tour to Hong Kong and Singapore, said Xiaoding Zhang, public relations manager at the Shanghai Grand Theater. But Shanghai did not then have a large enough theater.

Outcast

The idea did not die, however, in part because Victor Hugo's story about an outcast who fought for social causes is one of the most popular western novels in China. Qian Shijing, vice president of Shanghai Grand Theater, started contacting Mackintosh about "Les Miserables" in 1997, and set the wheels in motion for bringing the production to China.

The more formal invitation arrived later when the Chinese government contacted the United Kingdom's Department for Culture, Media and Sport, "after discussions between world leaders," said Alan Wasser, whose New York company manages the show.

The tour became feasible in 1998, when the Shanghai Grand Theater was completed. It seats 1,800 and is as large as "Les Miserables" Broadway home, the Imperial Theater.

The next obstacle was shipping stage sets via a commercial jet at a cost of about $240,000. Such a cost was "unheard of," Ying Houjie, deputy general manager of the Shanghai Grand Theater, told Reuters. Ying said they suggested the sets be shipped by sea, but Mackintosh refused.

Finally, about 200,000 pounds (5,663 kg) of sets, weighing as much as a blue whale, arrived in Shanghai this week on a Boeing 747 jet.

Leaner production

The leaner production of the American touring company compared to its Broadway brethren helped cut costs as well for transportation and housing for the cast and crew to $1.7 million.

The price for about 21 performances is still high by Chinese standards but advance bookings for the show have been good. Four days before "Les Miserables'" Shanghai debut, about 23,000 tickets, or 74 percent of the total, had been sold, Zhang said.

"LES MISERABLES." Will also be performed in Seoul starting July 12.

The popularity was due largely to the familiarity with the story, and extensive media publicity. The Shanghai Grand Theater even sent four Chinese journalists to New York and San Francisco to interview the show's actors and producers, which is unusual in China.

Tickets for the Shanghai shows run from $10 to $100, compared with $20 to $90 in New York, and $10 to $60 in London.

The price, however, is in line with other Western performances held at the Shanghai Grand Theater, such as the three tenors (Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras), but $10 is still more than a day's salary for an average worker in Shanghai.

The lead roles are filled from the London cast, with original star Colm Wilkinson staring as Valjean and Michael McCarthy as Javert, and several others will come from Broadway.

Form of art

"If it is a form of art that can be appreciated by Chinese, vast amounts of Broadway productions could be presented in China," said David Caddick, the show's executive producer.

"Les Miserables" will play in Seoul from July 12-Aug. 4 after Shanghai.

Worldwide, "Les Miserables" has been seen by more than 49 million people, with box office gross topping $1.8 billion.

There have been 54 productions in 35 countries and 21 languages, according to the show's website, wwww.lesmiz.com.

Broadway often is called "the Great White Way" because of the magnificent illumination of the theaters, used to announce its shows and stars in white lights.

The production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Cats" was the longest-running show in Broadway history.

Reuters

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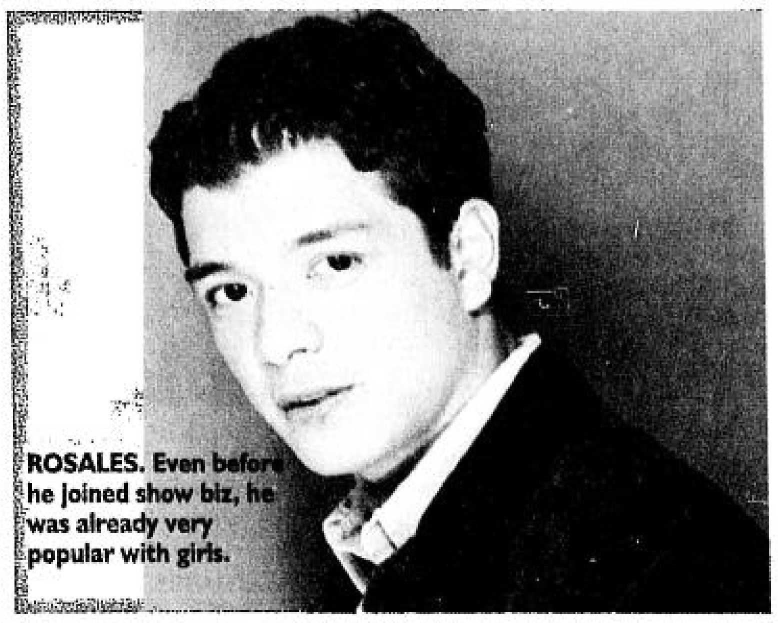
Jericho Rosales hasn't changed, says his nephew and close friend

By Jocelyn Valle



ROSALES. Even before he joined show biz, he was already very popular with girls.

JERICHO Rosales may be one of the most popular and talented hunks in the biz now, but for Ryan Manalo, the 22-year-old star of Star Cinema's latest offering, "Forevermore," will always be the same Jing he used to know since they were kids.

Helpful

"Helpful, understanding and forgiving *pa rin siya hanggang ngayon,*" Ryan notes of his uncle, who's two years younger than he is (Jericho and Ryan's mom are siblings). *"Hindi siya nagtatanim ng galit. Tumutulong siya sa pamilya. Mabait siya talaga.*

"Ang hindi ko lang gusto sa kanya," he continues, grinning, *"'yung pabago-bago ang isip niya. Para siyang bagyo. Minsan magyayaya siyang manood ng sine sa* Glorietta *tapos biglang sa* Sta. Lucia na niya gustong pumunta.

"Topakin din 'yan. Minsan tahimik lang. Pero kilala na namin siya, kaya OK lang."

Other relatives

Jericho practically grew up with Ryan's family, and would only leave periodically to live with his other relatives, including the ones in Bicol and Baguio. Naturally, uncle and nephew (but Ryan doesn't call the young star Uncle) are very tight. Jericho learned a lot from Ryan, including his culinary expertise.

When Ryan was still working in a Chinese fast food restaurant in 1995, a talent scout spotted him to join a looks-and-talent contest for a noontime show. *"Pero hindi pa buo ang* confidence *ko,"* he recalls, thinking that Jericho was more qualified for the search. *"Guwapo na siya talaga noon pa."*

Ryan shares that Jericho was very popular with girls. There was even a time when Jericho had two girlfriends because he couldn't split up with one of them. But Ryan says that Jericho has had only three serious relationships.

Jericho, on the other hand, remembers not being sold on the idea of joining the contest at once. *"Ilang oras ko ring pinag-isipan 'yon,"* he says, shaking his head. *"E, sabi nila, 'Pera din 'yan.'* So *pumayag ako."*

Ryan and Jericho have always been bent on making their own money. Ryan recounts that they used to help at their family's fish stall in a local market when they were kids. They also worked in a pizza fast-food chain.

Contest

What was going on in Jericho's mind the first time he came out on national TV for the daily round of the contest while trying to project like Charlie Sheen, whom the organizers thought was his look-alike?

"Bahala na," he replies, *"'yon lang ang nasa isip ko. Noong* weekly round, feeling *ko na kailangan kong manalo. 'Yung sumunod, tinatanong ko na ang sarili ko kung mananalo pa ako.* During the grand finals, *talagang ginalingan ko na para manalo."*

Not surprisingly, Jericho won the "Mr. Pogi" title, and earned his first show biz gig as one of the co-hosts of "Eat Bulaga." Then, he auditioned for ABS-CBN's Talent Center and got a slot in Star Circle, Batch 4.

It's been an amazing journey for Jericho and he feels fortunate to be around the people who truly know him and whom he trusts completely. Wherever he goes, Ryan is also around. He now works as Jericho's personal assistant and secretary who makes sure that the star is reminded of his daily schedule and whether he has the right costumes.

Jericho and Kristine Hermosa hope that their romantic tandem on Channel 2's "Pangako sa 'Yo" will translate into a box-office hit in their first movie together, "Forevermore," but they're mum on their real-life relationship.

Don't ask Ryan, either. He's loyal to Jericho.

Paris celebrates 'Fete de la Musique 2002'

PARIS—Lenny Kravitz will be holding up traffic at Place de la Republique Friday night, while Talvin Singh, Anglo-Asian dub master, takes over the Paris town hall as France welcomes in its annual music festival.

Hundreds of musicians

Paris, like every other French city, will sway to a thousand beats as hundreds of musicians take to the streets to officially celebrate the "Fete de la Musique." Twenty years ago, a French government encouraged by then Culture Minister Jack Lang decided to dedicate the first day of summer to music, and the French people liked the idea.

Since its launch in 1982, 80 percent of French people are estimated to have taken part in the event. Ten percent—which represents more than five million people—have performed in public at least once during the festival.

Though some claim it has lost its initial freshness, the event never fails to draw millions to concerts and street performances around the country.

The experiment has caught on, and the French Culture Ministry claims 118 countries around the world have followed suit and launched their own national music festival.

Big-name stars

At the French festival big-name stars tend to put in an appearance or two—Lenny Kravitz is taking center-stage this year—but the event is really intended as a celebration of musical diversity, tradition and popular art.

French musical culture in general has become increasingly open to "World Music" and Friday night's line up is a testimony to this.

Alongside French performers of classical music, rock and jazz, dozens of concerts will feature African, South American and Asian performers, playing for small roomfuls of rapt listeners.

Herve Bordier, in charge of organising this year's festival, has made a point of encouraging amateur performances around the country.

French Culture Minister Jacques Aillagon declared the festival officially open Friday lunchtime in Paris, backed by a chorus of nine to 14 year-olds, the "Polyssons" ("The Mischiefs") singing old French classics by the likes of Charles Trenet.

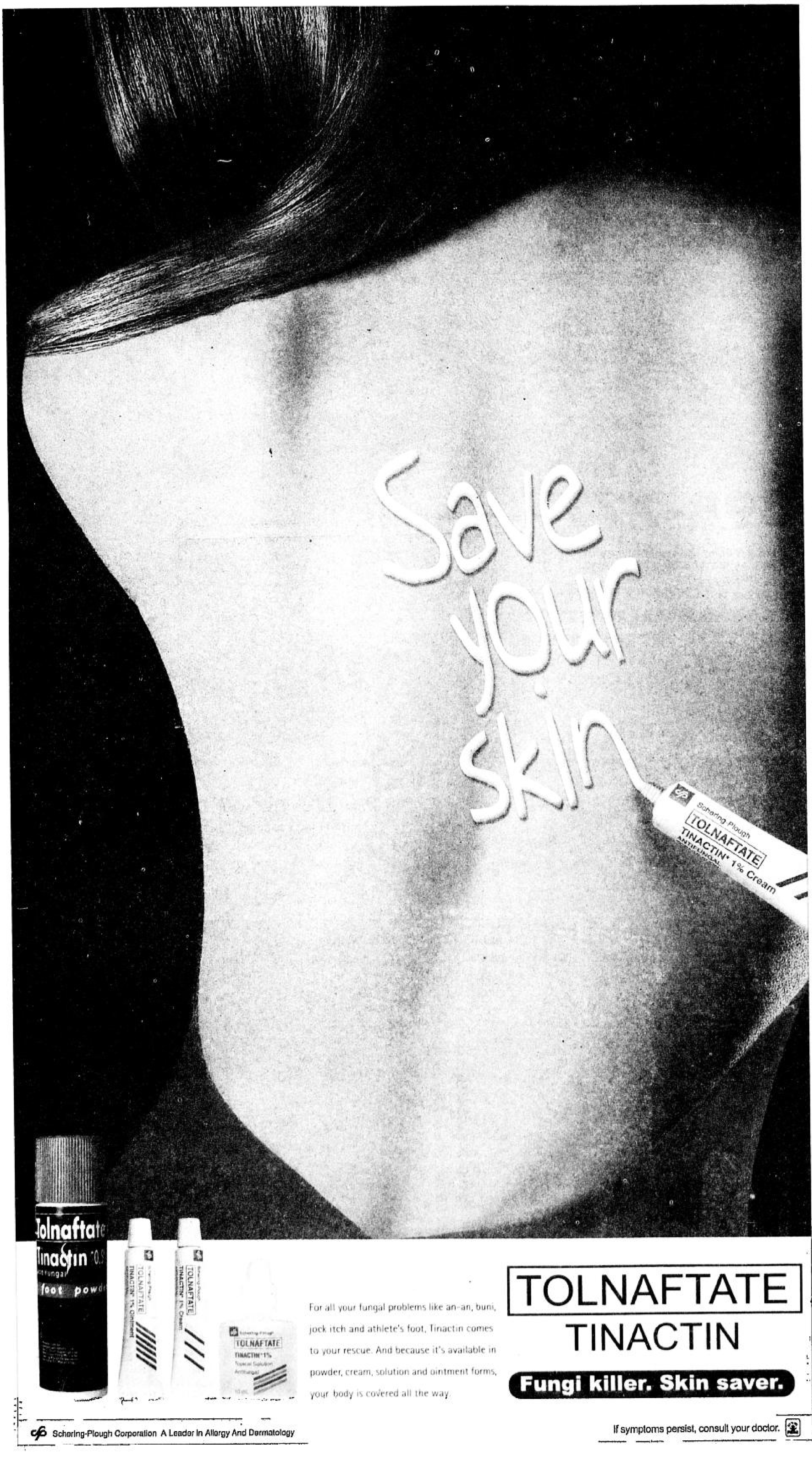
Rock concerts

As night falls, the children's choirs will give way to the jazz, techno, reggae and rock concerts planned all over the country.

In the gardens of the Louvre, under the auspices of the Culture Ministry, thousands are expected for a concert given by one the forefathers of electronic music, composer Pierre Henry.

In a gesture towards music lovers, some music stores have even teamed up with the French government to cut VAT on records from 19.6 to 5.5 percent for the weekend.

Aillagon, traveling by motorbike for the day, today visited one of the stores involved, before zooming off to find the next party. *AFP*



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SATURDAY *Special*

SPEARS. The world's most powerful celebrity?

Britney Spears tops Forbes' list

By Steve Gorman

LOS ANGELES—She's "not yet a woman," but Forbes magazine crowned pop princess Britney Spears as the world's most powerful celebrity last week, dethroning movie star Tom Cruise from the No. 1 spot he held last year.

Media exposure

The seemingly ubiquitous 20-year-old singer from Louisiana tops Forbes' annual "Celebrity 100" list, which combines earnings with media exposure to calculate the relative status of entertainers, athletes and other famous people.

Spears, who heralded her own coming of age in the recent hit "I'm Not a Girl, Not Yet a Woman," actually ranked No. 25 in terms of money-making clout, earning an estimated $39.2 million during the past 12 months. "Star Wars" director George Lucas was the leading breadwinner on the list at $200 million.

But what she lacked in income, Spears more than made up for in terms of magazine cover stories, television and radio appearances, Web hits and overall media coverage.

Forbes managing editor Dennis Kneale noted that Spears has graced his magazine's own cover twice in the past two years.

Action film

Cruise, who was No. 1 on the list last year and stars in the much-anticipated Steven Spielberg sci-fi action film "Minority Report," did not even make the cut this year.

Kneale said that was due in part to Cruise deferring his payment for the film beyond the 12-month time frame measured by the magazine for this year's list.

Cruise's ex-wife, actress Nicole Kidman, however, ranks No. 27 on this year's list. "We just totally side with Nicole," Kneale joked.

Rounding out the top 10 were golf champion Tiger Woods, director Steven Spielberg, pop superstar Madonna, Irish rock group U2, boy-band sensation 'N Sync, songstress Mariah Carey, talk show queen Oprah Winfrey, basketball star Michael Jordan and actor Tom Hanks.

Former US President Bill Clinton also figures prominently on the list, at No. 18, thanks in large part to considerable earnings on the lecture circuit. Forbes estimates Clinton grossed a whopping $25 million during the past 12 months.

Clinton charisma

"He can earn more money in a single year making speeches than he made in his eight years as president," Kneale said.

"Bill Clinton just continues to amaze and fascinate the American public . . . The guy's always had superstar charisma that goes way beyond mere politics." Fellow pastured politico, former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, ranked No. 43 overall, owing chiefly to his hero status in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Hit TV comedy

All three actresses on the hit TV comedy "Friends" made the list—Jennifer Aniston at No. 28, Lisa Kudrow at No. 59 and Courteney Cox-Arquette at No. 68—but Aniston's movie star husband, Brad Pitt, was a no-show this year.

In the literary corner, Stephen King remained the top-grossing author with $52.4 million (he ranked No. 8 on the earnings scale and No. 14 overall), followed by Tom Clancy, who earned $47.8 million and ranked No. 22 overall.

Best-selling novelist Mary Higgins Clark out-earned British children's author J.K. Rowling, $43.6 million to $41.8 million, but the creator of the "Harry Potter" books was higher in the celebrity standings, No. 34 vs. No. 47.

Reuters

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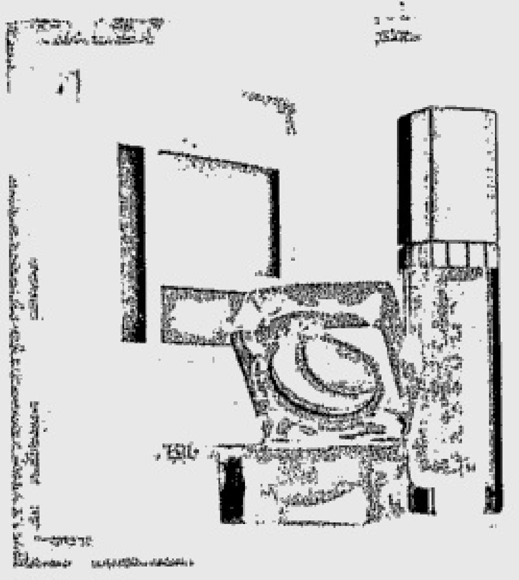

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'Lilo & Stitch,' the 'giant-equalizer'

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

THE BIG news in the movies this week is how a "little" animated film like "Lilo & Stitch" almost edged out Steven Spielberg's big Tom Cruise starrer, "Minority Report," at the US box office.

Ever since "Minority Report" was conceptualized as a Cruise-Spielberg powerhouse, Hollywood observers conceded that it would wallop all other competitors at the tills—but it looks like they didn't count on Disney's animated movie facing up so impudently to the "giant."

After both films opened on the same weekend, "Minority Report" did end up on top—but only by less than half a million bucks: It made $35.7 million during its opening weekend, while "Lilo" did $35.3 million worth of business.

Due to the big nose-to-nose race between those two new movies, other popular films could manage only third-fiddle business—$24.5 million for "Scooby-Doo," $15.1 million for "The Bourne Identity," $7.8 million for "The Sum of All Fears," etc.

Why was "Lilo" such an unexpected blockbuster? Reviews cite the film's across-the-board appeal to both young and mature members of its target family audience, its "fetching animation with vibrant watercolors," and it soundtrack of songs by Elvis Presley.

What's the "giant-equalizer" movie about? A monster is sentenced to exile due to his quarrelsome nature. Unfortunately, it has been imbued with superhero abilities and a destructive nature. The creature escapes to Earth, and its maker is ordered to recapture the monster.

To elude the pursuers, the monster morphs into a dog that's adopted by young Lilo, who names her new pet Stitch. Quite against his "monstrous" nature, Stitch finds himself helping to heal Lilo's fractured family life!

New kind of celebrity ride

Let's face it—when it comes to getting to know our celebrities, there really isn't much that we ignore. Including what's parked in their garage!

Now, there's a car show on television that gives us exactly that.

"Auto Extreme" is a one-of-a-kind car show that airs every Saturday at 4 p.m. over RPN-9. It presents motoring as a down-to-earth, multi-faceted and fast-paced source of entertainment.

Since its premiere last May, "Auto Extreme" has featured a number of stars and their celebrity rides, ranging from Hans Montenegro and his Ford Sport Trac, Ryan Agoncillo and his Ducati, Tonton Gutierrez and his love for racing, Onemig Bondoc and his F-150, and even the young couple Paolo and Suzy Abrera and their get-up-and-go lifestyle on the road.

For today's episode, "Auto Extreme" talks with Diether Ocampo to find out more about his passion for motorbikes.

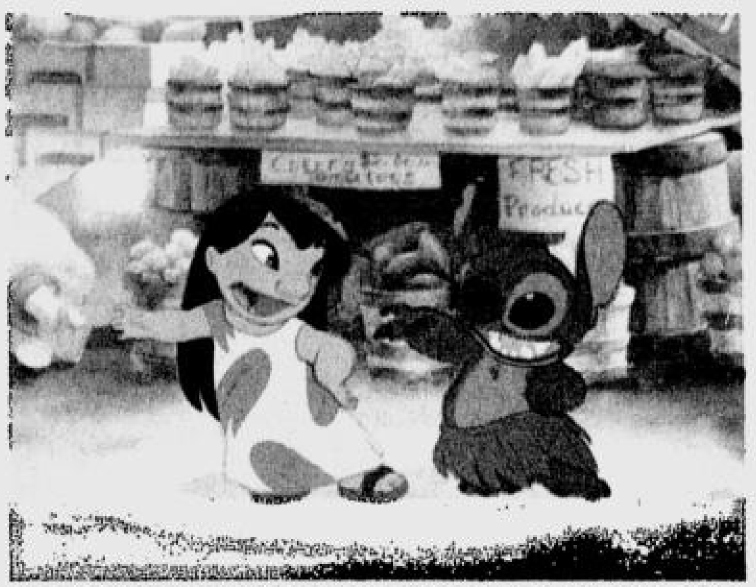
Nights of acoustic music at Tapika

Acoustic music from college-bred talents fills Tapika restaurant at 220 Katipunan ave., Blue Ridge, Quezon City.

On Mondays, the duo known as Revert brings in the crowd as they dish out old songs. On guitar is Iby Piquero, with Sheryl Reverente on percussion and back-up vocals. Their musical influences include Seals and Crofts, Karen Carpenter and Patti Austin.

Ria Victorino, Anna Santos and Jerome Rico make up The Acoustic Dream, which performs every Tuesday. All three are classically trained at the UP College of Music with a repertoire of standard, jazz and pop music.

Fiddler's Green is a six-piece band with influences ranging from folk to Indie rock. With the exception of Micaela Benedicto, a music teacher and UP graduate, the rest are Ateneo students who have ventured into songwriting and producing diverse compositions. They are Chris and Mark de Joya, Karlo Miguel, Michael Benedicto and Michaela Tatad.



LILO (left) teaches Stitch to hula and become a model citizen like her hero Elvis Presley in Disney's delightful new animated comedy.
AP

The Hourglass offers soothing music from standards to '80s tunes, the current R&B, pop and fusion pieces. The trio of Ria Villena, Paolo Tiongson and Egay Caole are music majors from the UP College of Music. Ria, the lead vocalist, also plays the keyboard and flute. Paolo is a fourth year guitar major while Egay has just graduated with a degree in Music Education.

J. Paolo Santos sings folk and jazz, accompanying himself on his acoustic guitar. He is singled out for the passion of his performance, his re-arrangements and improvisations, and his humor. He goes falsetto and belts out Patti Austin or Vanessa Williams songs every now and then.

Showtime is at 9 p.m. Call 647-8033.

'MTV Pilipinas 2002' telecast today

Experience the excitement, glamour and the best performances from the country's leading music artists with the premiere telecast of the celebrity-filled "MTV Pilipinas 2002," honoring the best in Philippines music video-making, today at 2 p.m. on MTV Philippines. Repeats will air on July 1 (Monday) at 7:15 p.m., July 5 (Friday) at 12 noon, July 7 (Sunday) at 9 p.m., and July 13 (Saturday) at 9 p.m.

The awards show, which was hosted by the wacky Martin Nievera together with MTV VJs Donita Rose, Belinda Panelo, KC Montero and Sarah Meier, featured performances by big winner Rivermaya (who won Best Group, Best Video and Best director—Lyle Sacris) and fellow Best Group contenders True Faith and Barbie's Cradle; Gary Valenciano (who won the Best Male Award) and Kayla (who won the Most Favorite Love Ballad award), diva Regine Velasquez, Greyhoundz, Maegan Aguilar, Carol Banawa, Karl Roy and Kevin Roy, Jet Pangan, Imago, 7 Shots of Wisdom and Grace Nono.

The other big winners of the evening were Karylle who received the Best New Artist and Best Female honors, Parokya ni Edgar with their Music Achievement Award and Best Song honor, and Cheese with their Most Stylish Video award for "Mottaka."

US tech, media giants seek common ground on piracy

By Sue Zeidler

LOS ANGELES--The titans of Hollywood and Silicon Valley seemed to find some common ground at a Congressional hearing Thursday, despite a rift between the two industries over mandated government standards for copy protection.

Third hearing

In the third Capitol Hill hearing on the topic in a month, the Senate Judiciary Committee heard from key technology players like Intel Corp. chief executive officer Craig Barrett and media industry leaders such as Richard Parsons, the chief executive of AOL Time Warner Inc.

The dispute between the two industries is due to efforts by Hollywood studios to stem the tide of online piracy, as unauthorized copies of everything from movies such as "Lord of the Rings" to Britney Spears' songs are swapped over the Web.

Despite a backlash from consumers and the technology sector, the entertainment industry has been pressing ahead for the mandated use of technology to prevent PCs, DVDs and portable music players from playing content that is downloaded illegally.

Hackers

Technology companies have balked because they argue such protections would ultimately be foiled by hackers, slow innovation and impinge on consumer rights to copy music and movies for their own use.

Sen. Ernest Hollings, who chairs the Senate Commerce Committee, has expressed support for a government imposed standard if the two sides cannot come to terms independently.

Such a bill could require makers of personal computers, digital televisions, VCRs and other consumer electronic devices to include copy-protection technology preventing the devices from playing pirated movies, TV shows or other broadcasters.

On Thursday, AOL Time Warner's Parso seemed to strike a conciliatory tone in the increasingly heated debate, saying that, while the government needed to intervene, those steps could be limited and targeted.

"No single silver bullet--technical, legal, legislative, or business--can provide a solution to this thorny form of piracy," Parsons said in his testimony.

"We are not calling for a broad government mandate of design requirements across the spectrum of products, devices and services," he said, but added that some government intervention would be needed to supplement private sector efforts to bring the piracy under control.

Useful role

Intel's Barrett said limited government intervention would play a useful role in some cases, but argued against a broad standard, saying technology companies were not responsible for enforcing copyright law.

"Broad government mandates are not a solution," said Barrett, adding: "The hidden costs of slower innovation, diversion of investment capital and lost ground in the global race for technological leadership that would follow from the insertion of a bureaucratic process into our product design work (are costs the industry cannot afford to pay)."

Under Hollings proposed bill, the Commerce Department would step in after 18 months if industry groups were unable to agree on a security standard.

At a Senate Commerce Committee on Feb. 28, Michael Eisner, chairman of Walt Disney Co., blasted high-tech companies, saying Apple Computer Inc., Dell Computer Corp. and Intel were basing their growth strategies around intellectual piracy. *Reuters*

Jackie B. to play Jackie O. again in TV movie on John F. Kennedy Jr.

LOS ANGELES—Film star Jacqueline Bisset is to play former US first lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis in a new television biopic about the life and death of her son John F. Kennedy Jr., producers said Monday.

Heir

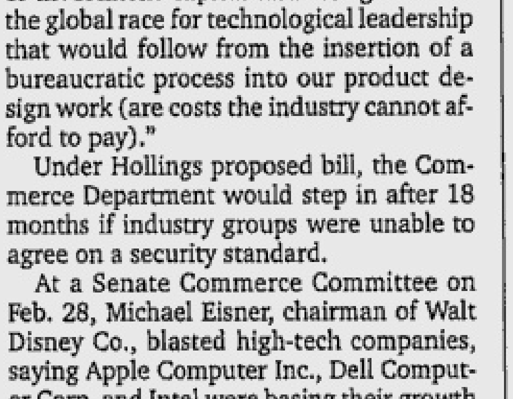
The film, "America's Prince: The John F. Kennedy Jr. Story" will tell the story of the heir to America's "royal" family who was killed with his wife and her sister when the plane he was piloting crashed into the sea in July 1999.

"John F. Kennedy Jr. was truly an American prince," said Tana Nugent Jamieson, vice president of original movies at TBS cable, which is producing the film.

"His life was a part of our lives," she said of the son of slain US president John F. Kennedy, adding that the film would be an "opportunity to tell his story and show how he was truly a prince among men." The movie will mark the second time that British-born Bisset, 58, has played Jackie Kennedy after assuming the thinly disguised role of the glamorous former socialite in the 1978 film "The Greek Tycoon," based on the life of Kennedy's second husband, Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis.

Biographical book

The new film is to be based on the biographical book "The Day John Died" by Christopher Anderson and will also star Portia de Rossi—from television's "Ally McBeal" as Kennedy's wife Carolyn Bessette Kennedy, Jamieson said.



BISSET AND ONASSIS. Striking resemblance.

The actor who will portray Kennedy in the movie, which will premiere on the US channel TBS Superstation in December on January, has not yet been cast.

Kennedy, 38, died in his light aircraft while flying his 33-year-old wife and sister-in-law Lauren Bessette, 34, to a family wedding at the Kennedy base in Hyannisport, Massachusetts, on July 16 1999.

Federal investigators concluded that pilot error, specifically "spatial disorientation," led to the fatal crash.

"Spatial disorientation" is a state in which a pilot, unable to see the horizon due to poor visibility conditions, loses track of a plane's position and orientation in the sky. *AFP*

Michelle Bayle stars in 'OK Fine, Whatever'

By Edmund L. Sicam

WE sat down for a chat with Michelle Bayle a few days ago during the presscon of "OK Fine, Whatever" which is topbilled by Aga Muhlach, Rica Peralejo, Bayani Agbayani, Nikki Valdez, Heart Evangelista, Christian Vasquez and Gloria Romero. Incredible as it seems, Aga and Bayani play fraternal twins in the series, while Michelle incredibly has a crush on Bayani.

Busy schedule

It had to be a short interview because she was needed for taping. The young actress is in great demand these days. She has a supporting role in the Jericho-Kristine movie "Forevermore" and is a regular on the daily noontime show "MTB."

Recently, she signed a recording deal with Viva Records and her first project is a dance album—*à la* Jennifer Lopez.

Michelle, who grew up in Canada, initially had trouble with her Tagalog but she has overcome that problem. Does she still take lessons? "No need *na. Okay na ang Tagalog ko*. The real training is everyday living. I talk to my *alalay*."

So what does Michelle prefer, comedy or drama? "I would love to be an all-out dramatic actress, if given a chance, for my big break." TV, or movies? "I love both." So, when does she think she'll get to do a solo movie? "You know, it's up to the producers. I'm also open to workshops. I'm very inquistive, *e*. To the very last detail. I like learning from my co-actors, my director. I listen to instructions." So, she's submissive? "Yeah, but with limitations."

BAYLE. Not ready to go bold.

What about bold roles that require her to show some skin? She doesn't want to say no to the idea but says she's not ready for that kind of exposure.

No regrets

Does Michelle regret entering show biz? "Not at all. I'm having fun!" But there must be some things about it that she doesn't like? "Sometimes, lack of sleep, but it comes with the job."

Can she sleep anywhere, anytime? "I train myself to." She admits, "Sometimes I snore! But even catnaps help. They increase your memory. And that's very important in this line of work."

How about show biz intrigue, doesn't that bother her? "You know, it's part of the job, you have to deal with it. I'm up to the challenge. And there's no problem you can't handle."

How about the fierce competition in the business? There are so many actresses, and just too few movies to showcase them all. "I'm not too competitive, *basta* I just focus on what I have to do, and I do it well. I concentrate on my work and mind my own business. It's friendly competition, actually. When I first started in the business, *kumakapa pa ako*, and I was very open to suggestions and advice, and always talked to the veterans and learned from them."

What's a role she would do absolutely anything for? "I saw the trailer of 'Magkapatid,' *parang ang lakas ng dating*. Or 'Anak' ni Vilma Santos—that would be a dream for me. I'd do anything to get a role like that!"

SWITCHING CHANNELS

'Unang Hirit's' Miriam, Hans split up

By Edmund L. Sicam

WE usually don't run stories here about show biz couples breaking up since, most of the time, these are based on rumors or feeds from publicists who want to generate media mileage for their clients. But when the admission comes from the couple themselves, then that's a different matter.

Last Wednesday, TV host Miriam Quiambao invited us to sample the cuisine at Spargo, a new resto of which she is part owner. During our talk, she casually mentioned that the idea of investing in the place came from her ex-boyfriend. With some gentle prodding, she admitted that she and her co-host on "Unang Hirit" Hans Montenegro had broken up 10 days ago.

In the meantime, Onemig Bondoc had dropped by. It seems he had heard the rumor and wanted to find out the truth for himself. Hans himself confirmed the revelation when he joined us at our table.

When Hans left to attend to his other restaurant, Rockstar in Libis, Miriam spoke some more about the breakup. Initially, she said it was because of their tight schedule. They didn't spend enough quality time together. She later modified that by saying she and Hans shared different interests. They were also exact opposites, personality-wise. Was a third party involved? She said no.

Miriam hastened to add that they parted as friends and we tend to believe her because the two didn't look like they had just broken up. When they finally split up, they promised to remain friends because they still had to work together on GMA's early morning show and it wouldn't be good for both their careers if they became bitter enemies.

MONTENEGRO AND QUIAMBAO. Still good friends.

She told us that things got shaky several months ago. That's when she realized that they were incompatible, but they still tried to make things work. Unfortunately, that was not to be.

Your wish is my command

Broadcast journalist Bernadette Sembrano has a new show called "Wish Ko Lang!" which premieres today at 4 p.m. on GMA.

The show focuses on the hopes and dreams of people like finding their long-lost children, dining with their favorite movie star, or being able to afford a church wedding. Bernadette will not just feature people and their stories but also grant their wishes.

Bernadette says that the objective of the show is not to give hand-outs but to instill hope in the hearts of Filipinos. Viewers can send in their wishes via text messages, email or even through the postal system. The information will be flashed in this afternoon's premiere show.

New album from Pops

Pops Fernandez recently launched her new album "The Way I Feel Inside' on ABS-CBN's "ASAP." The old pop hit "The Way I Feel Inside" opens and closes the album which includes "songs about broken hearts, new loves, love that was not meant to be, questions about loving and losing."

The selections include "Kaya Pala," "Hindi Pa Pala Ikaw," "Kahapon Nagdaan ang Bukas," Ano Ba Ang Tama?" "Nagkamali Ba Ang Puso," "Ikaw Na Nga Kaya," "Keep Your Feet on the Ground," "Pa'no Ba 'Yon?" "Bakit Ka Lumayo?" "Tinatanong Pa Ba 'Yon?" and "Bago Ang Lahat."

Pops' latest release is a collaboration with producer Margot Gallardo and songwriters Edith Gallardo and Moy Ortiz, the team responsible for Aiza Seguerra's big hit "Pagdating ng Panahon."

Pops will be at SM North Edsa today to promote her new album. She will also visit SM Southmall on July 6 and SM Sucat on July 13.

Generation East winners

Through the years, Generation East, an annual model search conducted by the Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall, has produced winners who have landed in the world of show business.

They include Pascal Greco, who is a member of ABS-CBN's Star Circle and has appeared in "G-Mik," Angelica Colmenares, who comes out in "Click," Acis Austria, who has guested in "Recuerdo de Amor" and came out in "Got 2 Believe" and Jeanne Harn, a commercial model.

The latest to join the roster are Ken Koizumi and Jasmine Chua, who were chosen Mr. and Ms Generation East 2002. Other awardees were Lalaine Labis, James Hewitt, Riccel McCallum and Joli Roa. Special awards went to Charles Rollon, Paris Raymond Tan, Margarita Angeles, Marianne Decima and Genevieve Marcelo.

"BLUE'S CLUES." Bright colors on the show's sets and costumes appeal to children.

Young viewers cite favorite kiddie shows

By Noelani Torre

TELEVISION shows for children have been a hot item for years, what with most of the younger generations spending more time glued to television sets than in reading books or engaging in other, more conventional educational activities. It has been proven though that television can be an effective teaching tool, and both teachers and entertainment people have been placing greater emphasis on the so-called idiot box's educational capacities.

Experts

The TV show for kids is an important television genre with its own experts, regulars, and sub-genres. Many studies have been made on the subject and now you can hardly find a show that doesn't have its own battery of child psychologist consultants. People *do* take this thing seriously.

What we wanted to find out was whether all that careful planning and orchestrating is actually effective with kids, who are usually a lot sharper than we give them credit for. We wanted to know which shows kids liked to watch and why they preferred them to all the others. This time our focus is on foreign kids' shows, which in truth are what most young Filipinos watch, anyway.

So we rounded up some of the more garrulous children of our acquaintances and asked them for their opinions. Here they are:

Colors

"I like 'Blue's Clues.' It's my favorite show because I like the colors that they have, like blue, yellow, green, red. I also like looking for clues. Blue is a dog and I also like him. He puts a paw print on the clues. Then we can find out what the thing is. I like watching it over and over again!"--*Karla Jean Valoroso, 7*

Grouchy

" 'Sesame Street' is my favorite show. I like Oscar the Grouch. He is my favorite character because it's OK for him to be grouchy and he lives in a trash can.

"Cookie Monster is my second favorite because I also like cookies. Nobody gets mad at him when he eats all the cookies. This show is not boring, not like the others."--*James Dean Mirano, 8*

Favorite subject

"All the other shows are for pre-school kids except maybe 'Zoom,' so I guess it's my favorite show. You can learn a lot from this show. I also liked 'Beakman's World' because Science is my favorite subject, but it's not showing anymore.

I like 'Zoom' because the people there are kids also. They don't sound fake. They also have a lot of interesting projects in science. But I think I'm too old for these shows already. I like the Discovery Channel more."--*Alonzo Vergara, 11*

Clues

"Gusto ko yung 'Blue's Clues' *kasi gusto ko ng aso. Aso kasi si* Blue, *tapos nag-iiwan siya* ng clues. *Tapos laging tama ang* guess *ko, kaya ito ang* favorite *kong* show. *'Pag di ko napanood ngayon, mapapanood ko pa rin bukas. Ito din ang* favorite show *ni Nanay.*"--Marguerite Roy, 6

Big bird

" 'Sesame Street' *tsaka* 'The Muppet Show,' *pero di na yata masyadong pinapalabas ngayon. Yun kasi ang lagi kong pinapanood dati nung wala pang* 'Dragonballs.'

"Mas gusto ko yung 'The Muppet Show' *kasi*

YOUNG/ p. G4

"It all started with Lola Inding. She had this signature Lengua that we all loved. The secret was in her sauce."

J. Gamboa

J Gamboa
Executive Chef
Cirkulo Restaurant

Our history.

I grew up with food. It's in my blood, literally and figuratively. My family now runs six establishments: Cirkulo Restaurant, Café J and Banquet Hall, Azuma-ya Japanese Noodle House, Tsukiji Japanese Restaurant, and two Milky Way delis, one in Alabang and the other in Rockwell Mall.

Of course, the closest to all of our hearts is Milky Way because this is where it all started. My mother's family acquired Milky Way from its original Spanish owners in the early 60's. And slowly, it grew from a simple Ice Cream and Sandwich Bar to a 15- branch restaurant chain.

Milky Way was known for quality food that never short-changed customers when it came to ingredients. This same philosophy is carried over today, in all our restaurants. What's both interesting and heartwarming to note is that the same cooks that prepared food for Milky Way in the 60's are still around with us today. So the familiar and favorite taste of Dinuguan, Lengua and all the Kapampangan recipes that people loved back then is still carried through today.

My story.

My job as Executive Chef at Cirkulo and Café J is also so much easier because I have these people to help me out. I never really planned on becoming a chef to begin with. I was in college in Boston back in 1989, living on my own. Rather than eating out, I decided to try it out myself---so I bought a cookbook and started experimenting. I liked it.

After graduating from my HRM course, I decided to pursue a real career in the kitchen and went to the Culinary Institute in New York. I came home, worked for New World Hotel for almost two years, and then decided that I was ready to share what I had learned with the family.

My inspiration.

I could point to a lot of things that inspired me to get into this business. But I could safely say that my biggest influence was my grandmother, Lola Inding. She had this signature Lengua that we all loved. And it's still the same Ox Tongue Asado that we serve at Milky Way to this date. Her recipe never changed, we grew up with it. It was there in all the parties, reunions and memorable get-togethers that we all shared as a family. Her secret was in the sauce. She prepared it with only the best ingredients, and it really made a difference. Lola Inding never compromised. She had to use brands that she trusted, like **Del Monte Tomato Sauce**. That's what made her Lengua sauce rich, thick, and distinctly "malasa". That's why to this day, we only use **Del Monte Tomato Sauce** for the very same recipe we serve in our restaurants. Our customers have trusted us and made us what we are today. And though times are difficult, we would never think of short-changing them by sacrificing quality.

We've been around for more than 40 years already. And we really plan to stay as long as Filipinos still enjoy eating good food.

Del Monte
TOMATO SAUCE

Lengua ni Lola Inding

Ingredients:

2	kg ox tongue
1-1/2	cup water
1/4	cup corn oil
6	cloves garlic, minced
2	pcs onions, minced
1/2	kg tomatoes, seeded and chopped
2	cups Del Monte Tomato Sauce
	Salt and pepper to taste

Cooking directions:

Simmer ox tongue in salted water until tender, about 1 hour. Remove skin from tongue, let cool. When cool, slice across the grain in 1/3 inch slices. Set aside. Prepare the sauce by heating oil and sautéing garlic, onions, and tomatoes until soft. Add the Del Monte Tomato Sauce and simmer for 10 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Add sliced ox tongue and simmer for 1 hour. Set aside. Better when eaten the next day!

(Makes 12 servings)

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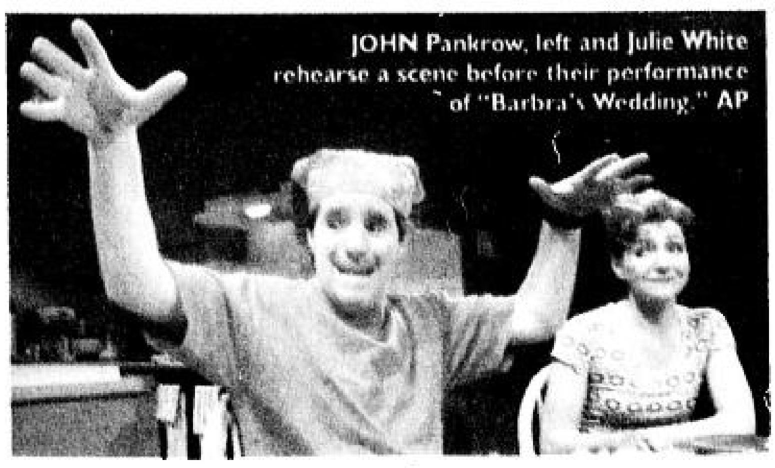


JOHN Pankrow, left and Julie White rehearse a scene before their performance of "Barbra's Wedding." AP

Daniel Stern makes his debut as playwright

By Catherine Lucey

PHILADELPHIA—Named for a superstar diva and written by a movie comic, "Barbra's Wedding" is a true study in celebrity.

Mediocrity

It is the playwrighting debut of Daniel Stern, who has appeared in such movies as "Home Alone" and "City Slickers." The comedy, about an unemployed actor struggling with his mediocrity in Hollywood as Barbra Streisand's wedding to James Brolin takes place, premiered this month at the Philadelphia Theater Company.

Stern, 44, who has worked as an actor since he first appeared in the 1979 movie "Breaking Away," said the play is based largely on his experiences.

"When you see the play, it's the darkest recesses of an actor's mind, how celebrity and all that can mess with your head and you lose sight of what's important," he said. "I hate to admit this because the character is so pathetic, but there are definitely thought patterns that are my own."

The main character, Jerry Schiff, is the former fourth lead in a long-dead sitcom called "Everybody's Peachy." Played by John Pankow (TV's "Mad About You"), Schiff is still hoping, despite obviously bad odds, that he can get a comeback role or at least an "Everybody's Peachy" reunion special.

Exasperated wife

His exasperated wife, Molly, played by Julie White ("Six Feet Under"), spends most of the play trying to snap him out of it.

The play received mixed responses from local critics.

Desmond Ryan of The Philadelphia Inquirer said it was a "promising, if uneven" debut. He said the comedy was a good first effort, with moments that are funny and insightful about celebrity, but at times it was predictable and one-note.

And Philadelphia Weekly critic J. Cooper Robb said the show takes a while to get going, but features clever dialogue and strong performances. He also said it was clearly a beginner's work. " 'Wedding' can be very funny, but its fractured plotting and manipulative conclusion betray Stern's novice status," he said.

Stern said one of the reasons he started writing was to escape stardom. He had appeared in dozens of films and was the voice of the adult Kevin Arnold on "The Wonder Years." But after several big hits in the 1990s, including "Home Alone" and "City Slickers," he said he became too well known.

"It was too much public stuff . . . I'd never been so recognizable," the gangly, nasal-voiced actor said. "I've always been a nice side character actor, and suddenly I was front and center."

Family

So about five years ago he decided to slow down and spend more time with his family. During that period, he said, he started to write.

"I was trying to teach myself to type," he said. "And I thought, this is really boring, so I started to write things."

Stern, who lives near Streisand in Malibu, California, said "Barbra's Wedding" was inspired by the circus he saw on her wedding day.

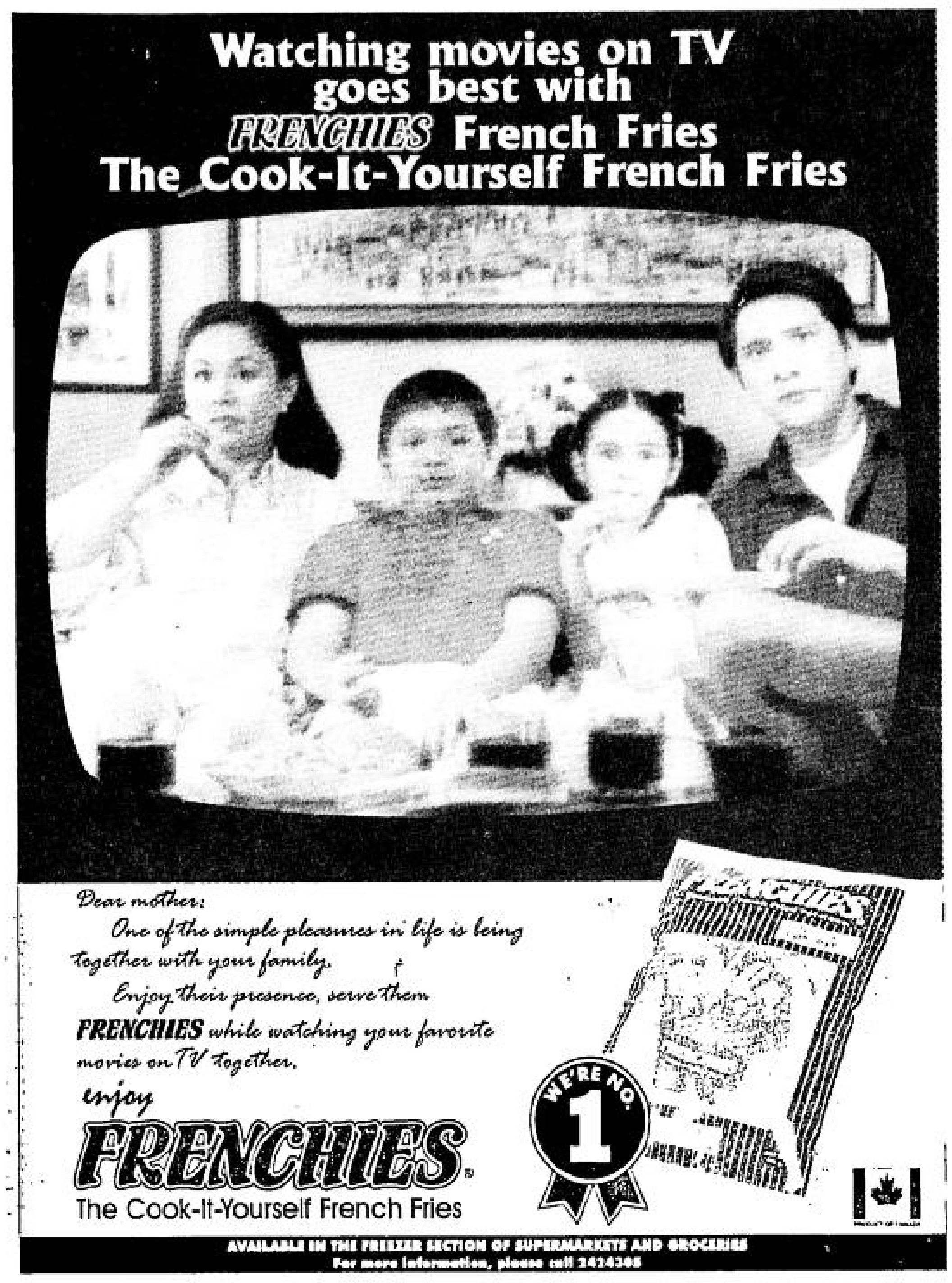
"I live near enough that with the helicopters I was like, 'What is going on?'" he said.

Of course, the wedding is just a backdrop for the real action.

"It's really an examination of a marriage of this couple," he said. "Their marriage is at a critical point. It's watching them work through their things. The wedding next door is a catalyst for that."

And in some ways, Stern said, the play is a thank-you to his wife for putting up with his career for more than 20 years. She has dealt with "the roller coaster of being in show business and the toll it takes on your life," he said. *AP*

The play is a thank-you to his wife for putting up with his career



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Young . . .

From p. G3

ayaw ko kay Big Bird. *Mas* cute *si* Kermit the Frog *tsaka si* Miss Piggy.

"Pangit kasi ang boses ni Big Bird. *Lagi din kasing may kantahan sa* 'The Muppet Show,' *mas masaya. Mas nakakatawa yung mga* puppets.*"--Krissie Alonsagay, 10*

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WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Giant Watermelon Page 2
- May Dalawa Akong Bahay Page 8
- Thoughtful Kid Page 10
- Shirley's Pets Page 15

The fantastic faces of football

World Cup fans put on their warpaint

A Paraguayan soccer fan, dressed in the team's colors, watches the end of the World Cup soccer match Paraguay vs Germany in Asuncion, Paraguay, Saturday, June 15, 2002. Paraguay lost 1-0 to Germany in the World Cup round of 16 Saturday and was eliminated from play. AP

A Senegalese fan, wearing Senegal's colors, waves a Sengalese flag and blows a whistle as he watches Senegal's game on a big screen TV in Dakar, Senegal on Tuesday June 11, 2002. Senegal drew 3 all with Uruguay and advanced to the final 16. AP

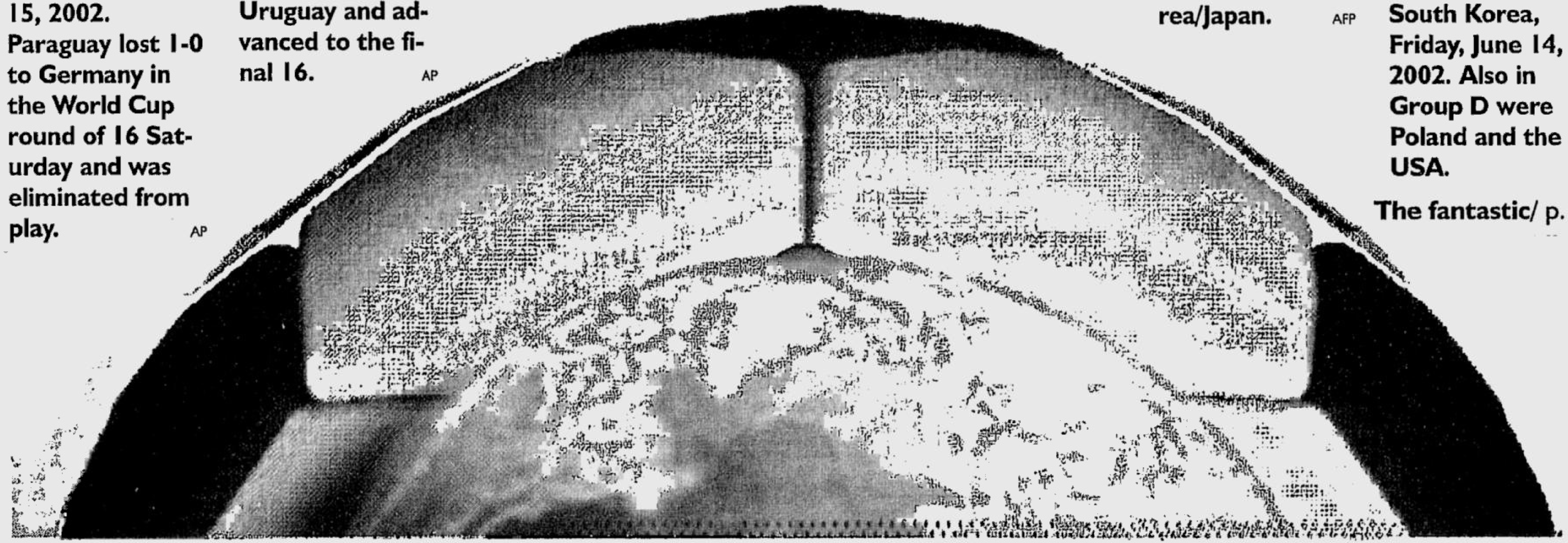
A soccer fan cheers prior to the start of the 2002 World Cup second-round playoff match between Brazil and Belgium Monday, June 17, 2002 in Kobe, Japan. AP

A Brazil fan cheers in the stands prior to the start of the 2002 World Cup, soccer match between Brazil and Costa Rica at the Suwon World Cup stadium in Suwon, South Korea, Thursday June 13, 2002. AP

An American fan cheers from the stands, 17 June 2002 at the Jeonju World Cup Stadium in Jeonju, ahead of second round playoff action between Mexico and USA in the 2002 FIFA World Cup Korea/Japan. AFP

An unidentified Korea supporter, her face painted with the Korean flag, wait in the stands prior to Korea's Group D 2002 World Cup soccer game against Portugal at the Incheon Munhak Stadium in Incheon, South Korea, Friday, June 14, 2002. Also in Group D were Poland and the USA. AP

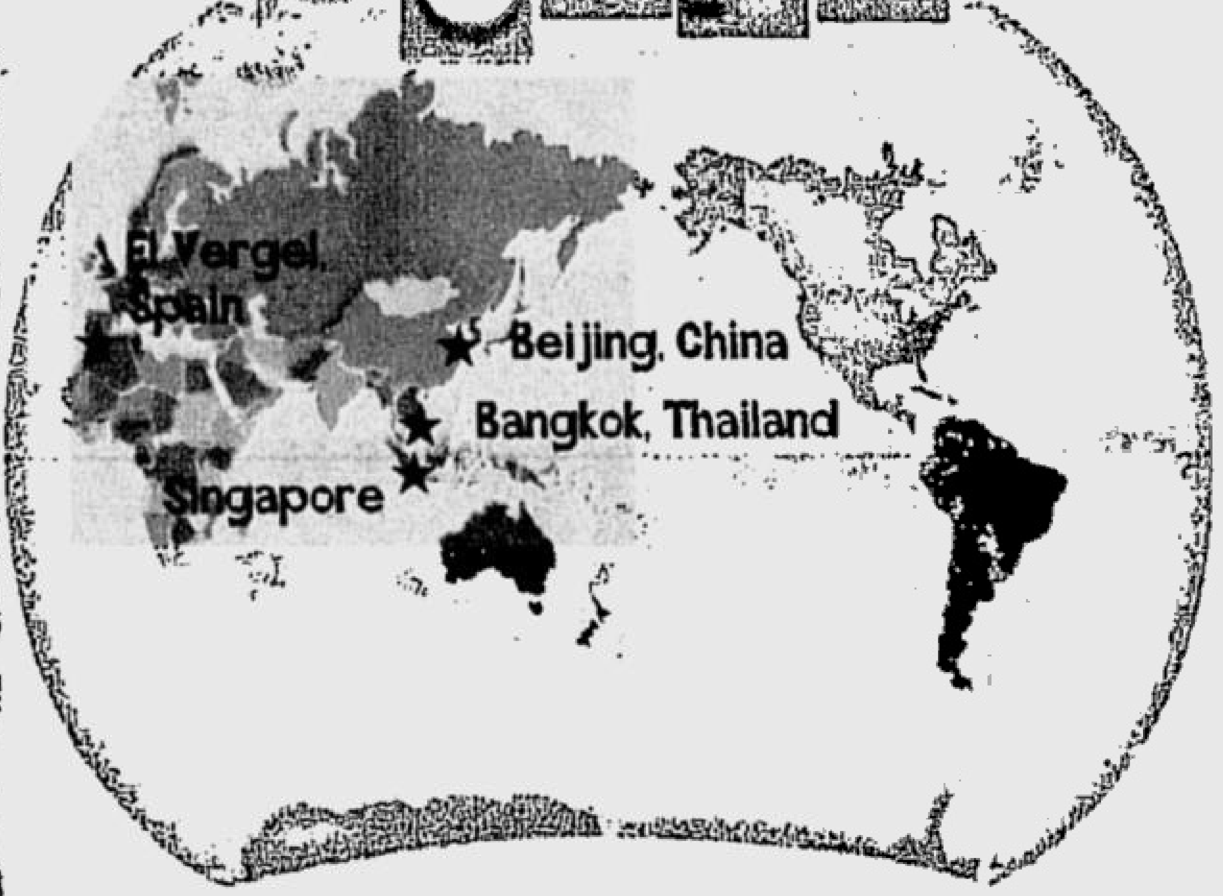
The fantastic/ p. 6

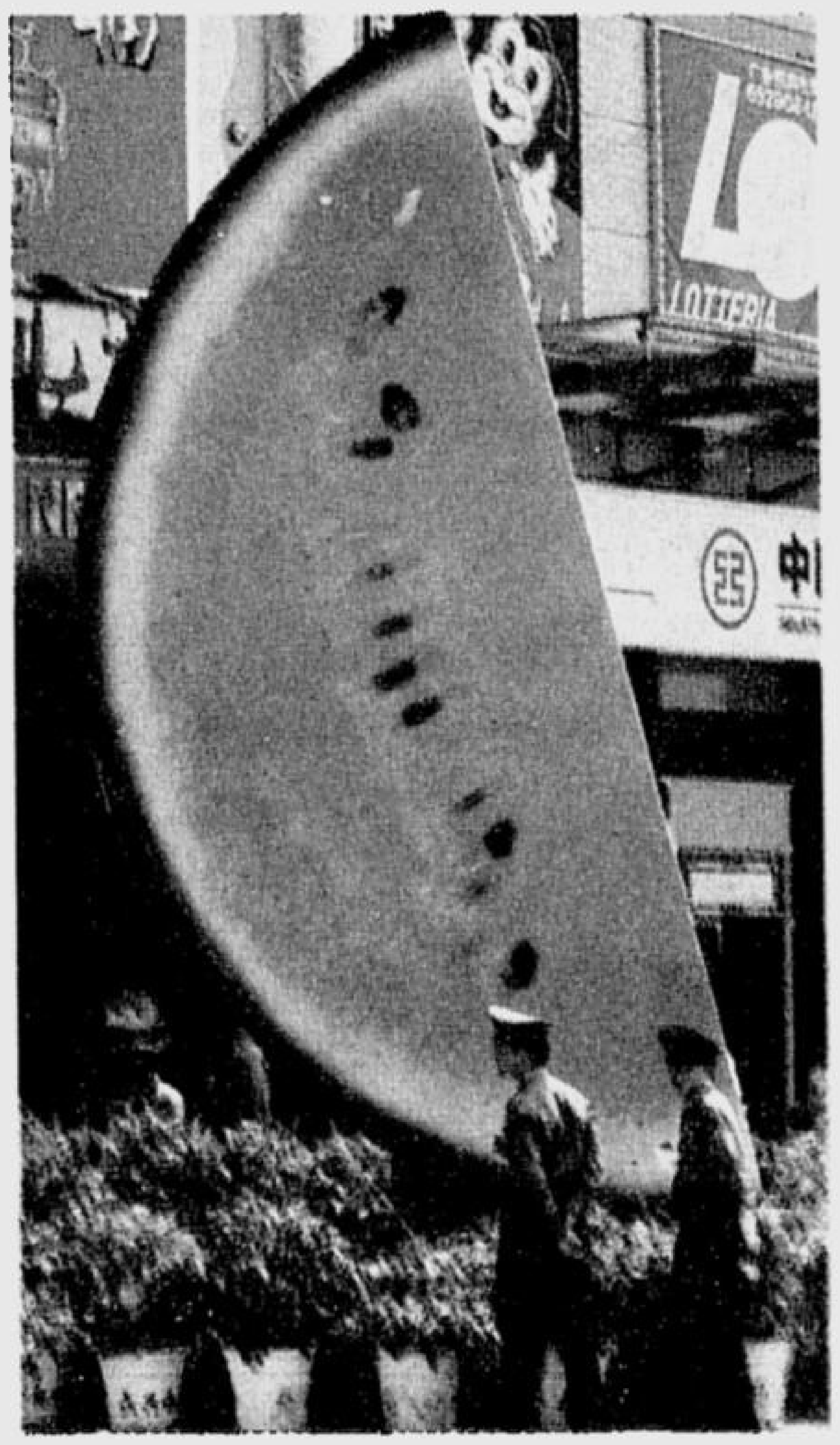


For Love of Thee, and the Sea

Lester Kwok, left, and Juliana Khoo, center, exchange vows in a fish tank at Singapore's Underwater World. The couple wants to raise awareness of shark fishing and discourage other Singaporean couples from serving shark fin soup at their weddings. *AP*

World Scope



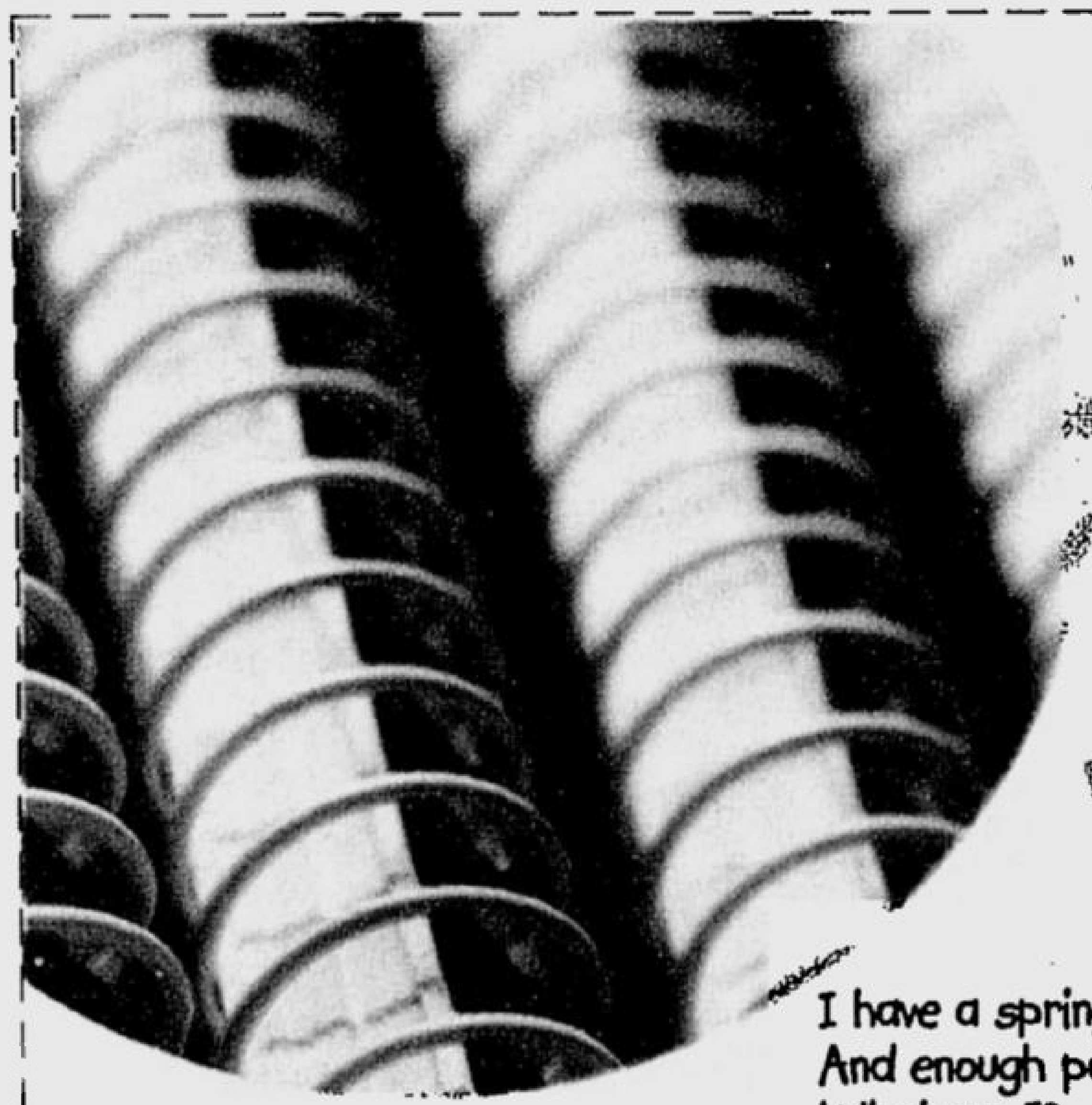


Want a bite?

Too bad the yummy-looking fruit is made of styro and plastic foam. The giant watermelon is on display for Beijing's upcoming watermelon festival. *AP*

Look Ma! No land

Thai inventor Pravit Yongvanich rides along a river on his homemade water bike in Bangkok. He says it's a cheap and environmentally friendly way to avoid traffic. Pravit hopes to mass produce and sell the machine to Thailand, and maybe even to America. *Reuters*



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Guess the different school supplies for a chance to win a cool surprise!

Answer, cut and collect all 9 clues and send them to us with your name, address, tel. no., birthday and signature for a chance to win neat school stuff!

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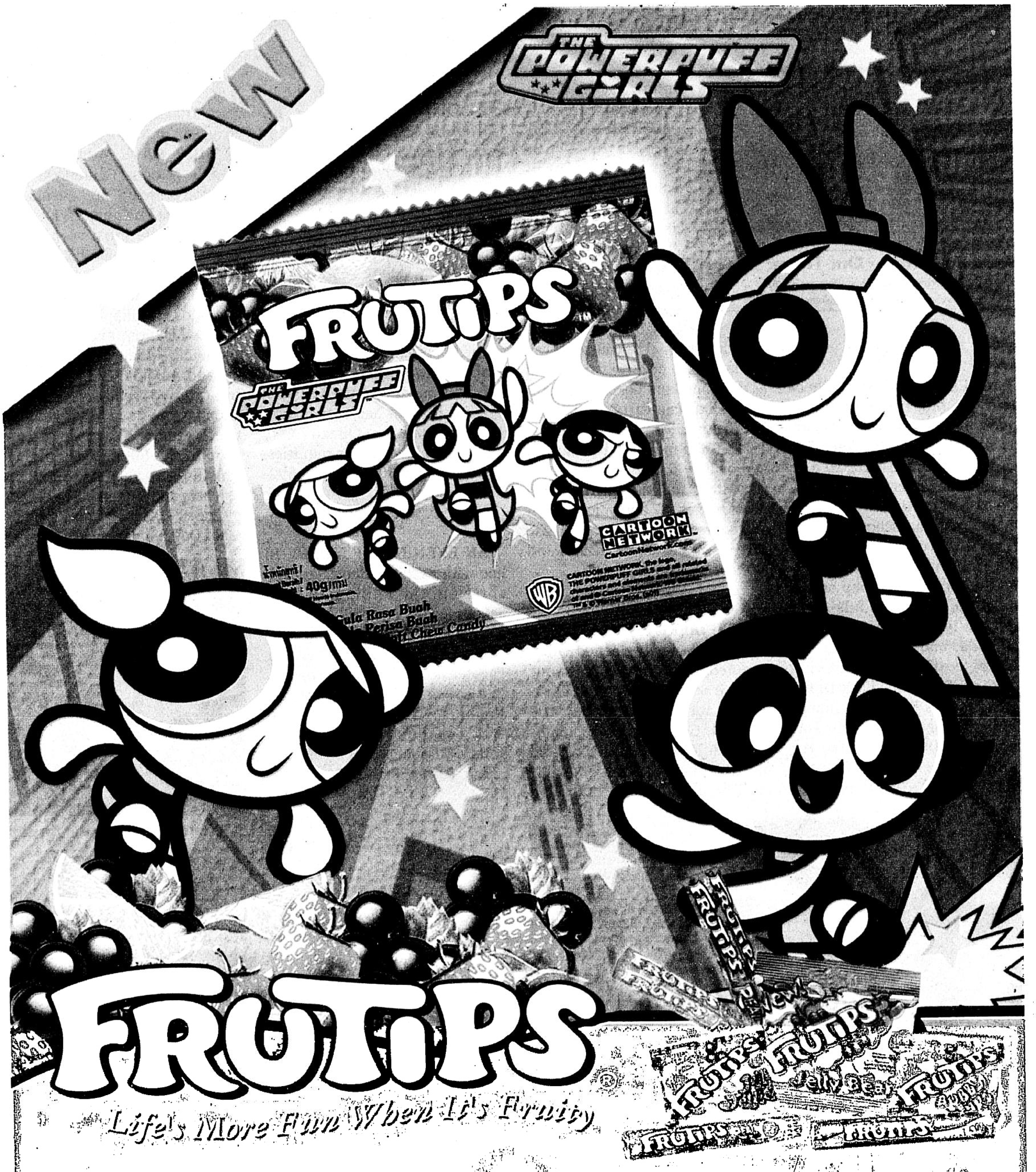
I have a spring for a spine,
And enough pages for notes, scribbles and rhymes.
What am I?

answer: ____________________

DURATION: JUNE 22-JULY 6, 2002 *SEE PRINT AD FOR DETAILS PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 2436 SERIES OF 2002

The Lion, the Bitch and the Puppy

Abandoned by his lioness mom, 7-day-old Pitu shares milk with a newborn dog at the Zoo of Safari Park in Spain. The female pitt-bull doesn't seem to mind. The surrogate family will be together for three more weeks until Pitu can grow up alone. *AFP*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(s02)

OUT THERE

By Christine A. Paita

Got something for Out There? Send us the info two weeks in advance. Our fax numbers are 897-4793 up to 94. Don't forget to include your contact numbers and addresses.

Workshops

ESCUELA SA MUSEO. Check out Ayala Museum's lineup of workshops for kids in July: Digital Arts workshop (for kids ages 7 to 14), July 6 to August 10, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Beginner's Pastel workshop, July 6 to August 24, 2 to 5 p.m. International school students who will be on their summer break from July to August can attend the special workshop on Beginner's Oil Painting, July 10 to August 2, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., every Wednesday and Friday. Ayala Museum also offers the following workshops for adults: Basic Drawing, Beginner's Pastel, Beginner's Oil Painting, Jewelry Making, Portraiture and Decorative Arts. For inquiries, please call Christy Monastrial at 810-8407 or email inquiries@ayalamuseum.com.

CHOIR SINGING. Stretch those vocal chords! Ryan Cayabyab The Music Studio is now offering Ensemble-singing for children ages 8-13 as a regular course. Boys and girls will learn basic musicianship and how to sing effectively with a group. The course will also emphasize positive values such as discipline and good team spirit which kids can carry until adulthood. Auditions will be held at The Music Studio today, June 29, and on July 6. The studio also offers Music and Movement classes for kids ages 3-7 and voice and piano courses. For more info please call 844-3330 or 843-2874 and look for Melissa or Gladys.

Kiddie Centers

FREE TAEKWONDO. Kids Central. Inc., a newly opened child-oriented center, invites everyone to its free trial lessons in Taekwondo and Painting, today at 9 a.m. Kids Central caters to infants and toddlers from 1-3 years old and also offers tutorials at all levels. The center is also offering a one-week trial in their Baby Care and Toddler Time programs. You can visit Kids Central at the ground floor of 61 Remco Tower , West Capitol Drive, Pasig City. You may also call 687-3659 for details.

TERRIFIC TOTS. Kids and their parents celebrated the first ever Terrific Tots Family Fun Day held by The Little Gym at the Rockwell Club. The Little Gym is the first fitness-based development center in the Philippines that offers physical development for children ages four months to twelve years. The Little Gym has branches in Makati, Alabang, Quezon City and Mandaluyong. For inquiries, please call Joy Buensalido at 892-3520.

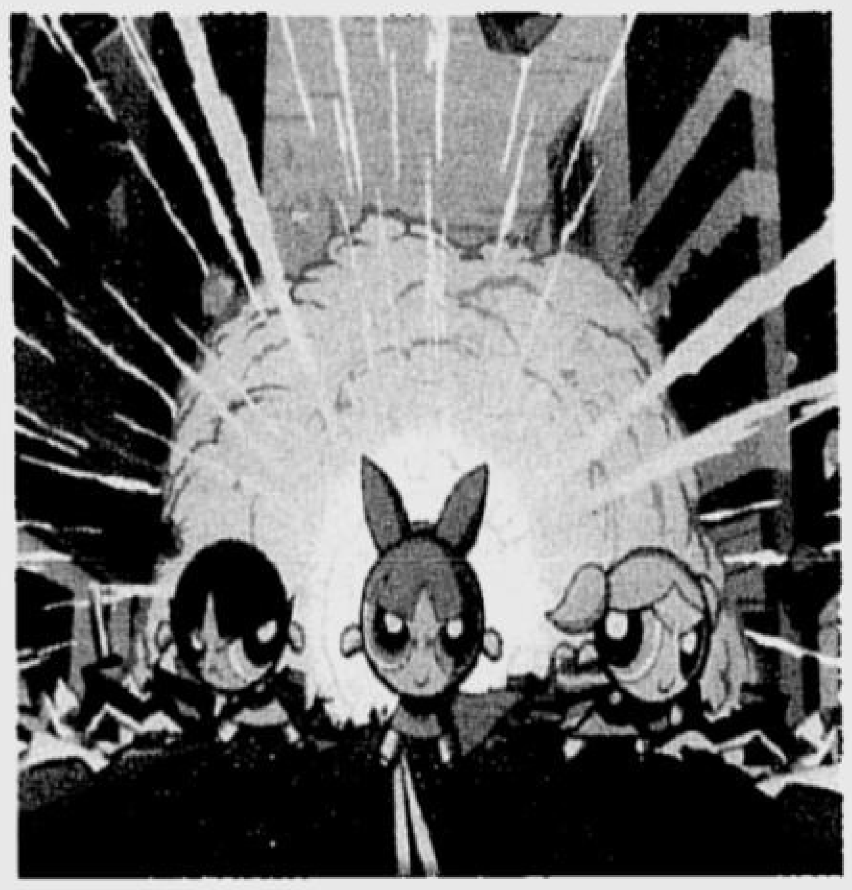
Event

AN EVENING OF MUSIC. In line with its 25th anniversary celebration, the Philippine High School for the Arts will hold a piano concert tomorrow, June 30, 7 p.m. at the National Arts Center Theater in Mt. Makiling, Laguna. The concert will feature PHSA alumnus Filmer F. Flores (batch '93). For inquiries, please call Ronnie Mirabuena or Princess Duma at (049)536-2862 or 536-5972.

Books

MAGIC SPELLS. Kids who love to enter the world of magic and fantasy will surely be delighted with Eva Ibbotson's latest books for children. Meet Arriman the Awful who searches for the perfect witch wife in "Which Witch?". Journey through a secret door and meet four interesting characters in "The Secret of Platform 13". Other stories by Eva Ibbotson are "Not Just a Witch", "Monster Mission", "The Haunting of Hiram", and "Dial a Ghost". All titles are available at National Book Store.

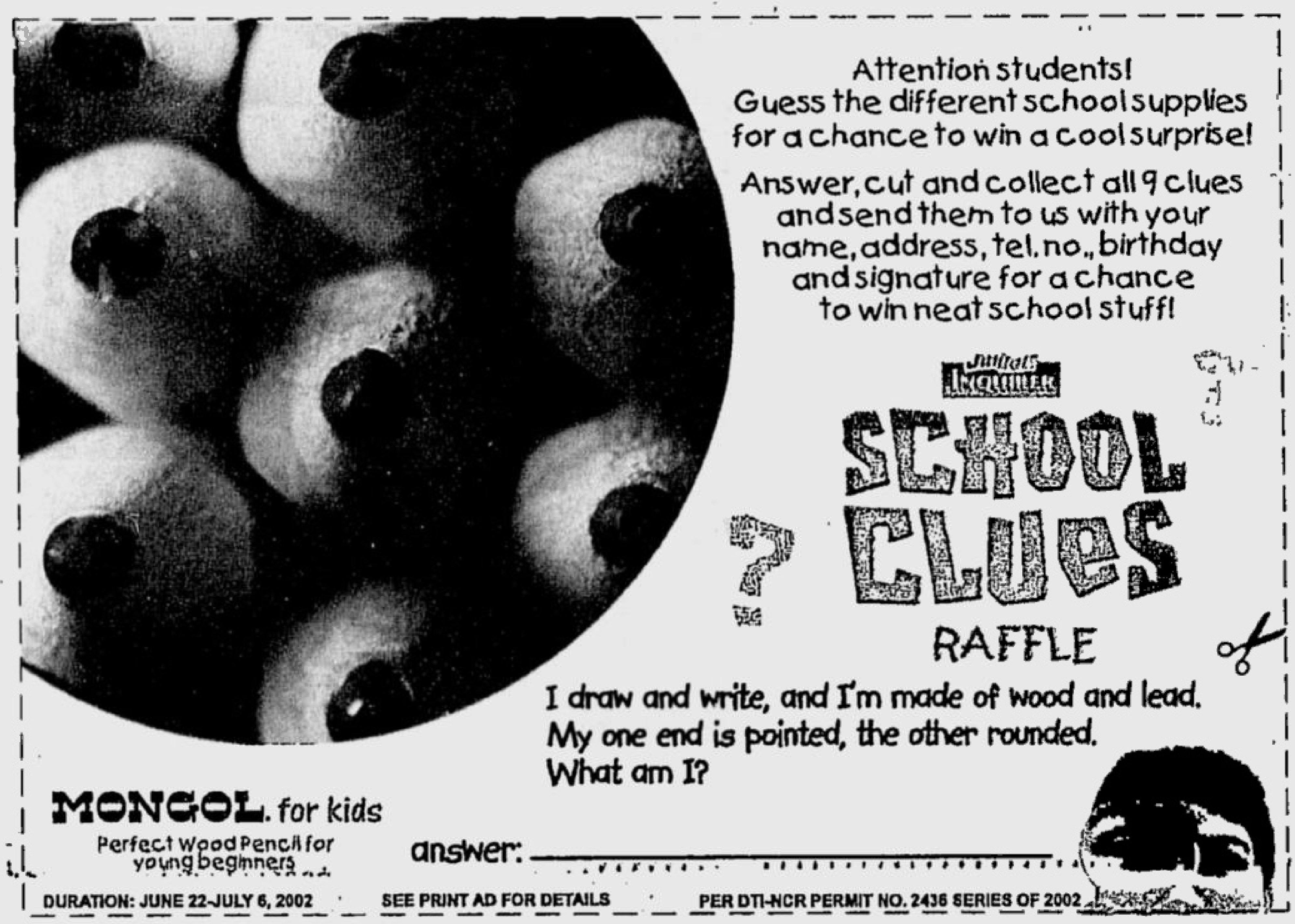
MUST HAVE. Adarna House and the National Centennial Commission presents "100 Events that Shaped the Philippines", a compilation of the most significant events in Philippine history. The book features stories and articles on the most important events in the fields of Philippine art and culture, education, history, politics, economics, science and technology, and religion. It also contains informative trivia, photographs and illustrations, and a timeline of world events to serve as a backdrop to the Filipino experience. This book is recommended for teachers and students. For details, please call 410-500 and look for Mabi-David Balangue.



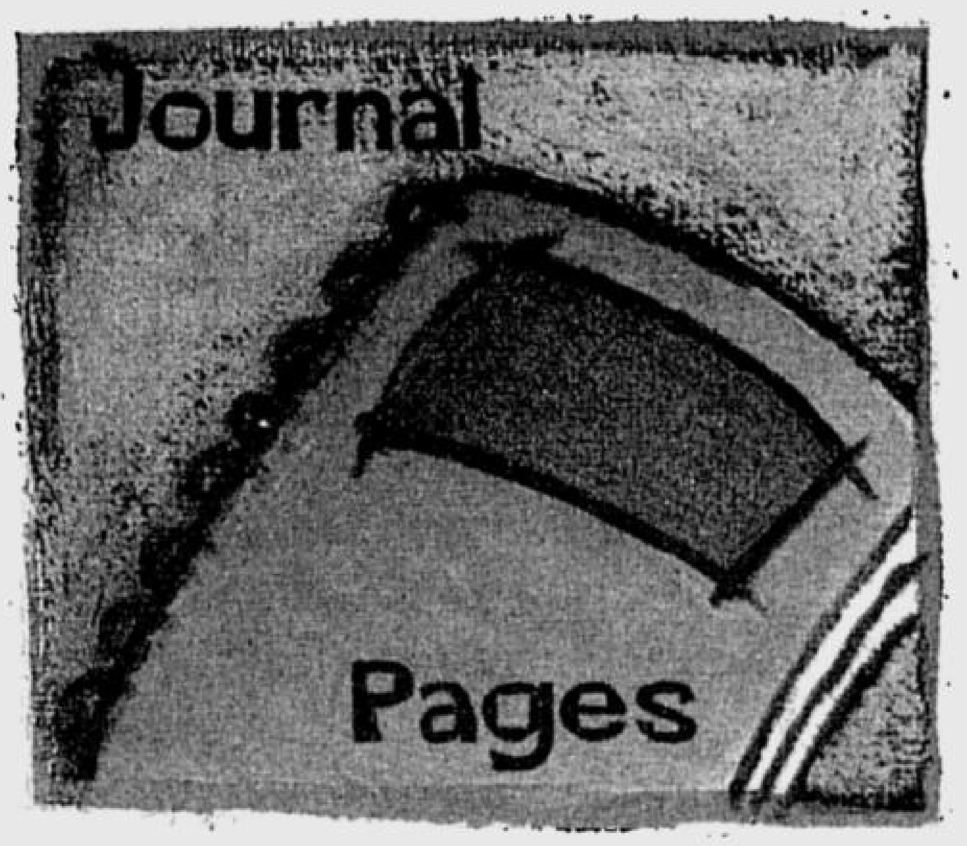
POWERPUFF girls to the rescue!

Movie

GIRL POWER! The cute and bubbly trio of Blossom, Bubbles and Buttercup will now delight kids on the big screen in "The Powerpuff Girls Movie". The crime-fighting trio teams up with the evil genius Mojo Jojo to build a machine that would help make the City of Townsville a better place. Hmmm...what could be cooking in Mojo Jojo's mind? Will the girls learn the truth about him? Find out how the Powerpuff Girls became protectors of once-peaceful Townsville. The movie opens in Metro Manila theaters on July 10.



Attention students!
Guess the different school supplies for a chance to win a cool surprise!
Answer, cut and collect all 9 clues and send them to us with your name, address, tel. no., birthday and signature for a chance to win neat school stuff!
Junior Inquirer
SCHOOL CLUES
RAFFLE
I draw and write, and I'm made of wood and lead.
My one end is pointed, the other rounded.
What am I?
MONGOL. for kids
Perfect Wood Pencil for young beginners
answer: ____________________
DURATION: JUNE 22-JULY 6, 2002
SEE PRINT AD FOR DETAILS
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 2436 SERIES OF 2002



Pollution

By Rizelle Mae A. Torralba, 13
Ipil, Zamboanga Sibugay Province

WHAT can pollution do to mankind? Why is it an alarming problem?

Pollution is a process that causes harm to living organisms and their habitats. Aquatic plants and animals die when chemicals and wastes pollute the water they live in. Land organisms also suffer because of pollution. Animals and humans will be breathing impure air. This causes many sickness and diseases.

Just imagine what the world will be like if we don't control pollution.

We young people can do a lot to prevent pollution. Let's tell our parents and elders about its harmful effects. Let's avoid burning plastics and wastes that emit lots of smoke. Let's not throw waste in our bodies of water.

Instead, let us segregate our trash and throw it in proper places. Let's also help organizations that promote trash segregation.

All this will be done if we unite in mind and in spirit towards a better future, healthy bodies and a more progressive country.

Sound Familiar ?
Write down your thoughts now and send them to JI. Who knows, you might just get published!

POLLUTION
Steph

Straight from JI Readers

You can now reach us via e-mail! Our address is **ji@inquirer.com.ph** Don't forget to include your complete name, age, snail mail address and your phone number. Hope to hear from you soon!

How I came to know the Junior Inquirer

DEAR Editor,

Hi! At first, I was not interested in reading newspapers because the news is about crimes and business stuff. I'll tell you how I came to know about the Junior Inquirer.

Two years ago, I took summer classes at Reading Dynamics. On my last day at the reading program, Dra. Aurora Roldan, our Directress, talked to me and told me to read more books so that I can improve my reading skills. She also recommended to me the Junior Inquirer because it will not only enhance my reading skills but also broaden my knowledge.

My favorite parts are the poems, stories and the World Scope. I like Junior Inquirer because it attracts the attention of the kids and gives them something to be busy about besides playing. When I answer the activities I learn essential facts, and I find it enjoyable. It is interesting and informative.

More power and keep up the good work!!!—**SARENA A. GUEVARRA**, 10, Countryside Village, Pasig City

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Advertising Sales Manager

Junior Inquirer (JI) welcomes your views, suggestions, essays, short stories and poems. All contributions must be typewritten double-spaced on short bond paper. Contributions without a self-addressed, stamped envelope will not be returned. Please send your letters & contributions to:

the Junior Inquirer Editor,
Philippine Daily Inquirer,
P.O. Box 2353,
Makati Central Post Office,
1263 Makati City,
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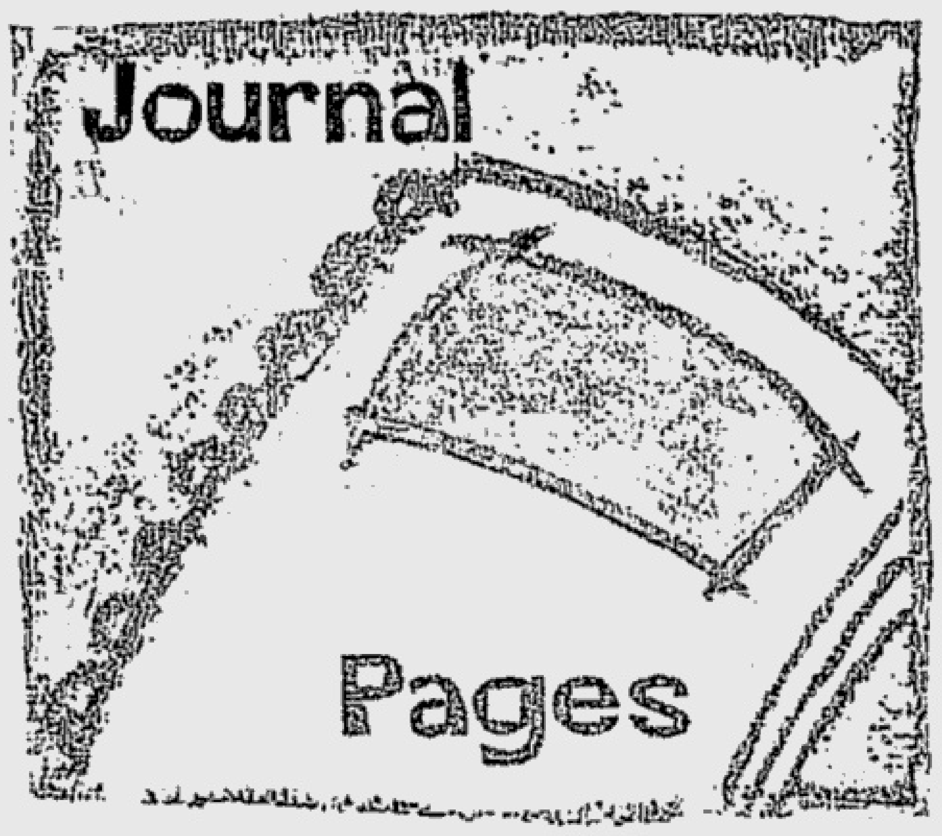

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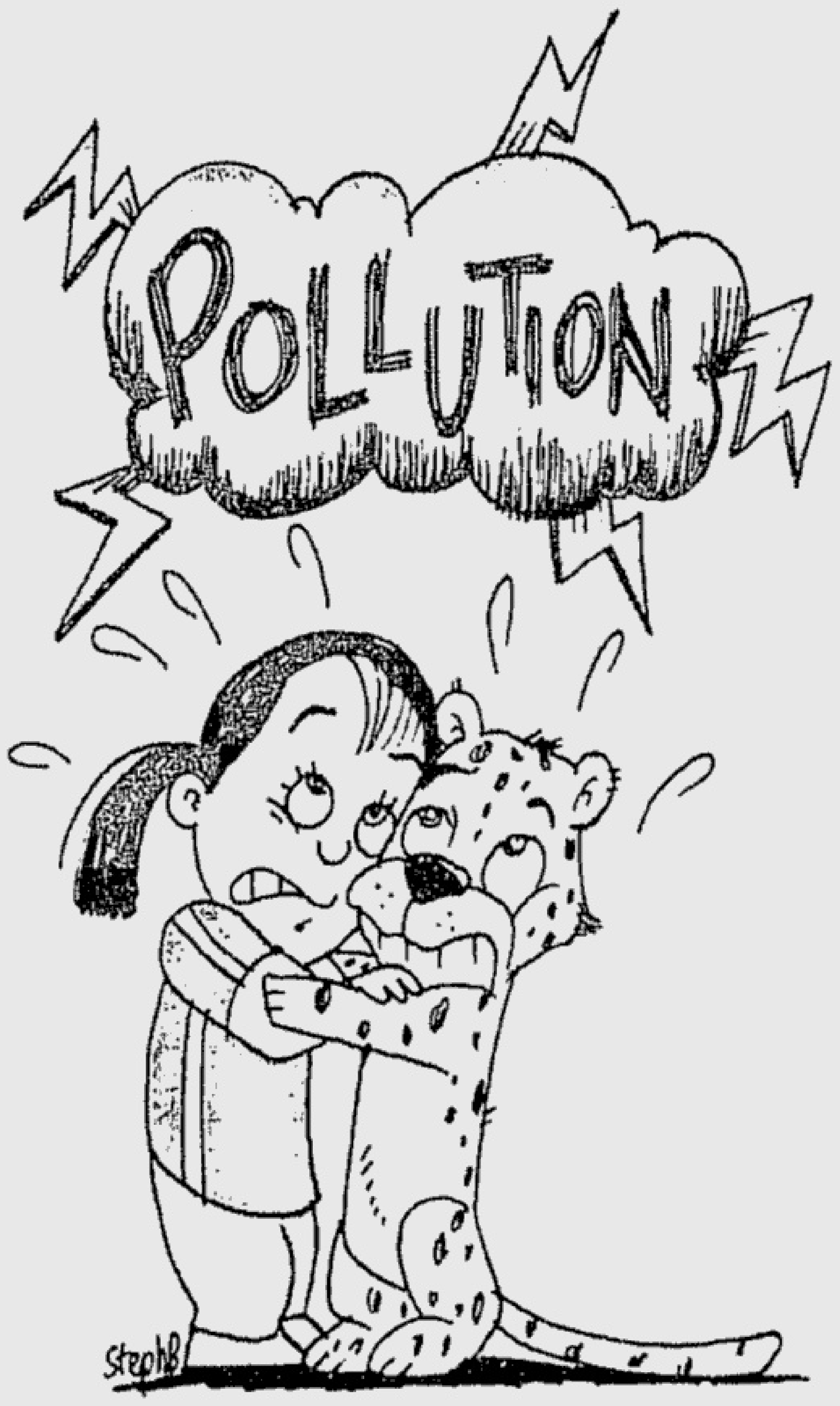

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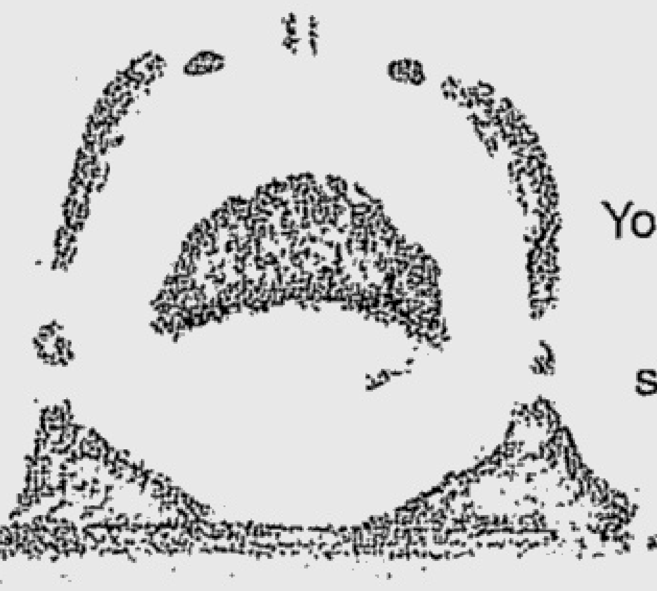

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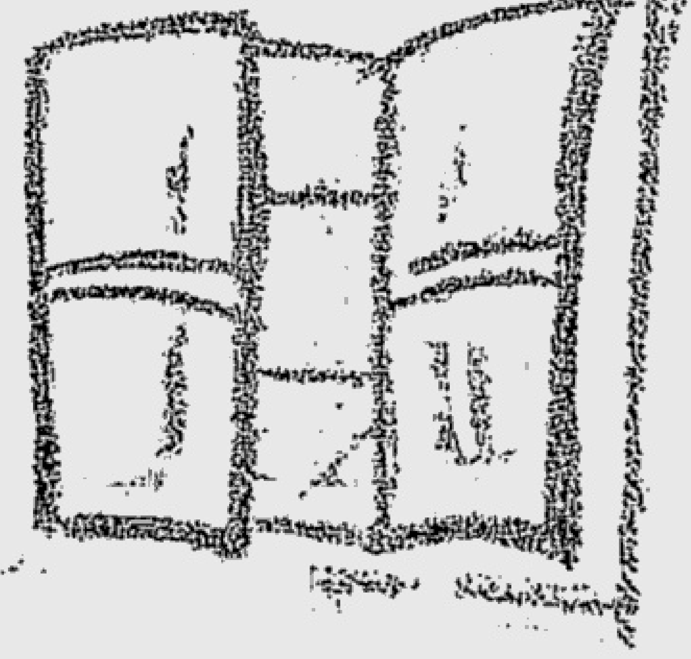

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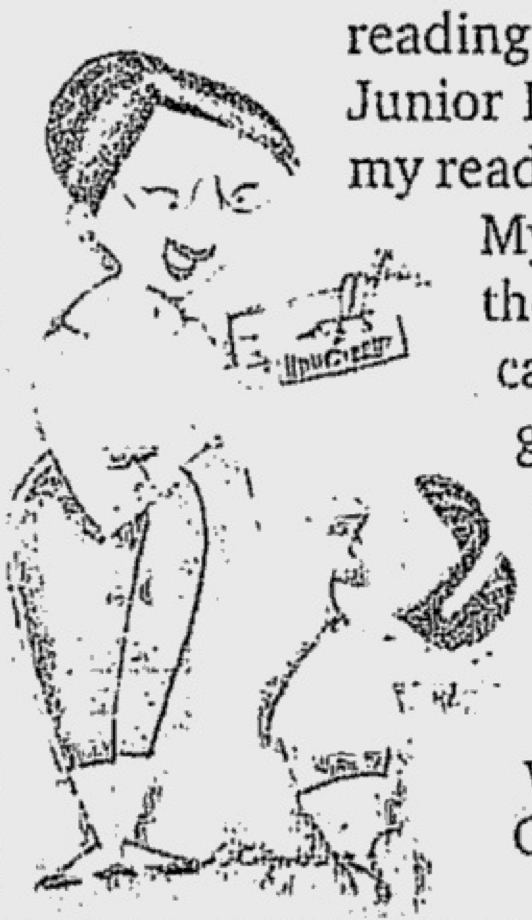

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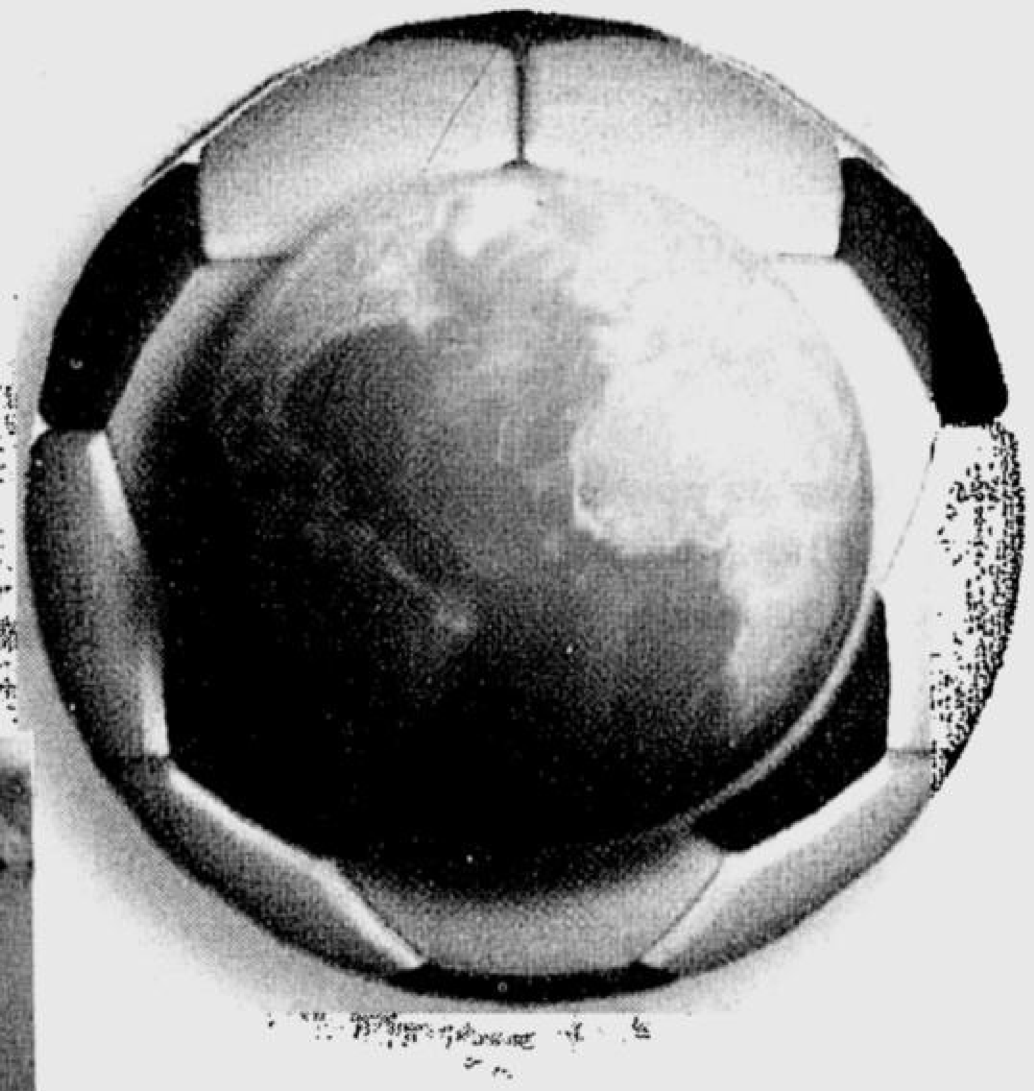
The fantastic... (from page 1)

Irish soccer fans Mathey Dooley, (above) left, and Peter Dooley, right, cheer along with other fans as they wait for the kickoff of the 2002 World Cup second round match between Ireland and Spain in Suwon, South Korea Sunday, June 16, 2002. AP

A soccer fan (left) shows his support for Italy prior to the start of the 2002 World Cup match between Italy and Mexico in Oita, Japan Thursday, June 13, 2002. AP



England fans (above) celebrate their team's victory in Trafalgar Square as they stand under one of the four lions at the base of Nelson's Colunm in London Saturday June 15, 2002. AP

A Korean fan (left) celebrates prior to the game against Portugal at the Incheon Munhak Stadium in Incheon, South Korea, Friday, June 14, 2002. AP

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Inquirer
SCHOOL CLUES
RAFFLE

I'm small but sharp –
Use me to keep your pencils pointy.
What am I?

MONGOL®
METAL SHARPENER

answer: ____________

DURATION: JUNE 22-JULY 6, 2002 SEE PRINT AD FOR DETAILS PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 2438 SERIES OF 2002

A Japanese fan (above) cheers in the bleachers of Miyagi Stadium, Japan, 18 June, 2002 before match 55, round of 16 of the FIFA 2002 World Cup Korea Japan opposing Japan and Turkey. AFP

FIFA Fever

ONLY one more day to go before the World Cup finals come to a close!

With 204 member associations , Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) is one of the biggest and most popular sports federations in the world.

Imagine, 194 teams from around the world fought for the coveted 32 slots in this year's tournament. After a month-long series of fancy footwork and golden goals, in the end, only one world champion will rule.

Win or lose, however, the fans will remain to root for their teams. They may come in different shapes and sizes but they share passion, commitment and loyalty—even if it's for different teams. What does it take to be a true football fan?

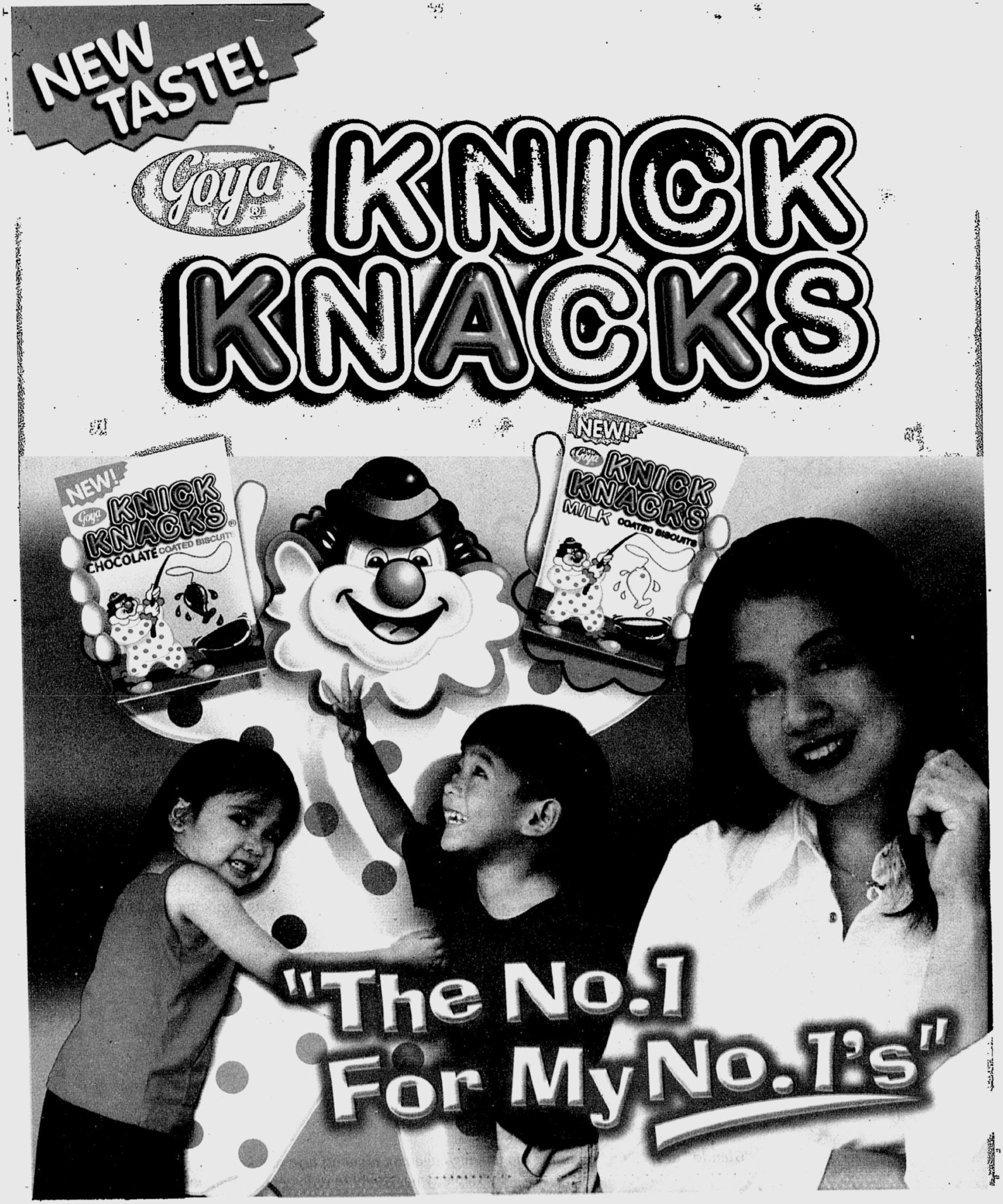
Every set of fans has at least one song for their team. And there are also chants. Sometimes a chant could be about the other team, about a favorite player or even about the referee.

"One thing that you have to understand about a referee is that when he makes a decision that is in favor of your team, he's always right. When he makes a decision against your team, he's always wrong. That's an essential part of being a fan," writes Fraser Symon, from the www.footballculture.net/fans website.

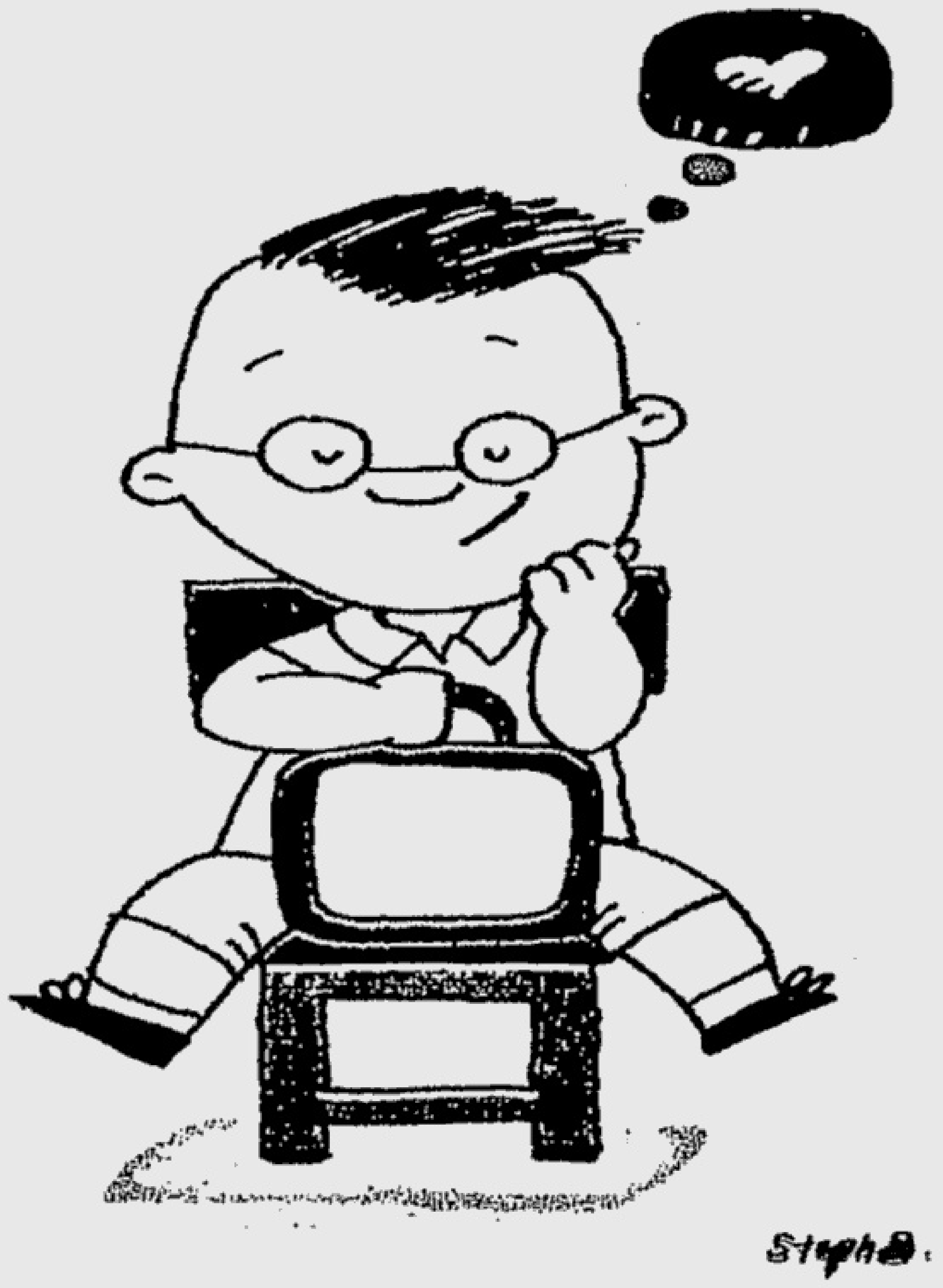
And who could miss the look? Every true fan dresses for the part. There are "kits" or clothing similar to the uniforms their players wear, facepaint, wigs, flags, masks and hats. Put together in creative, wild and crazy ways, fans really bring the spirit of football to life as they cheer, sing, clap and chant their teams through victory and defeat.

Eline Santos

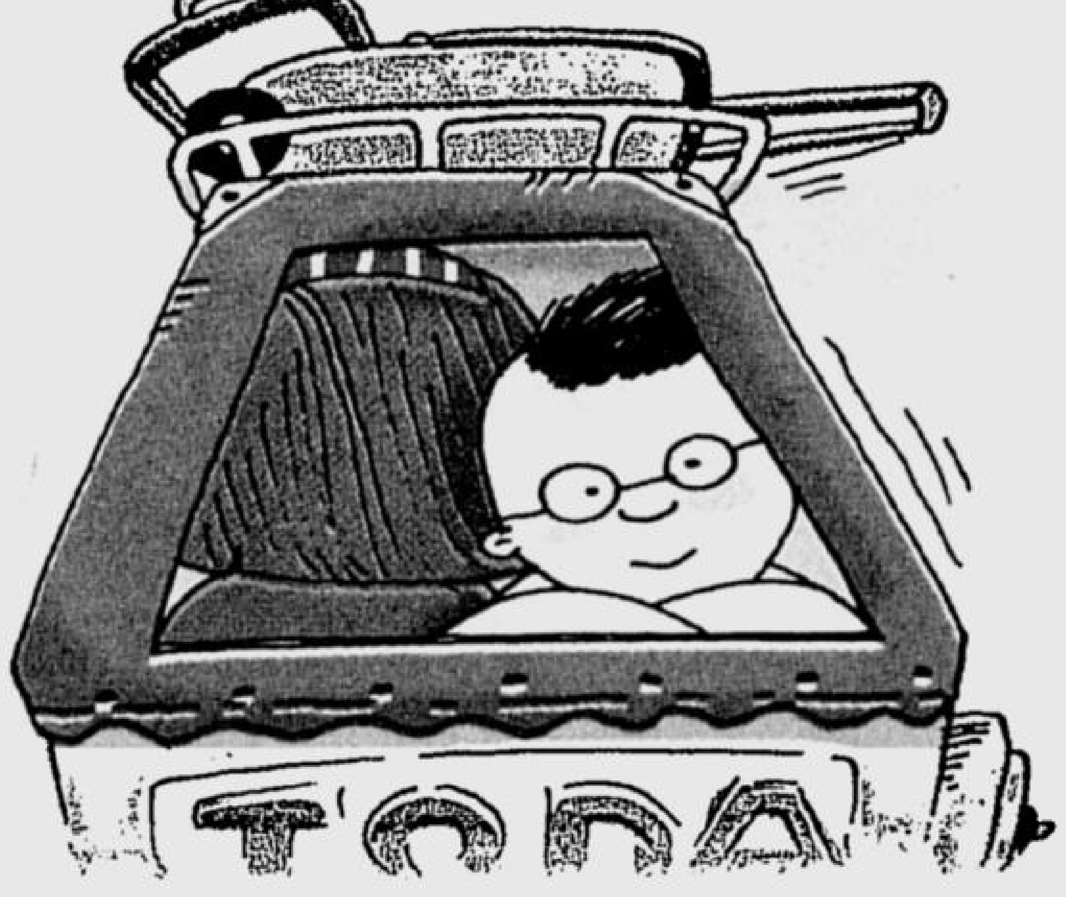
The fantastic/ p. 11


NEW TASTE!
Goya®
KNICK KNACKS
NEW!
Goya KNICK KNACKS®
CHOCOLATE COATED BISCUITS
NEW!
Goya KNICK KNACKS
MILK COATED BISCUITS
"The No.1 For My No.1's"

May Dalawa

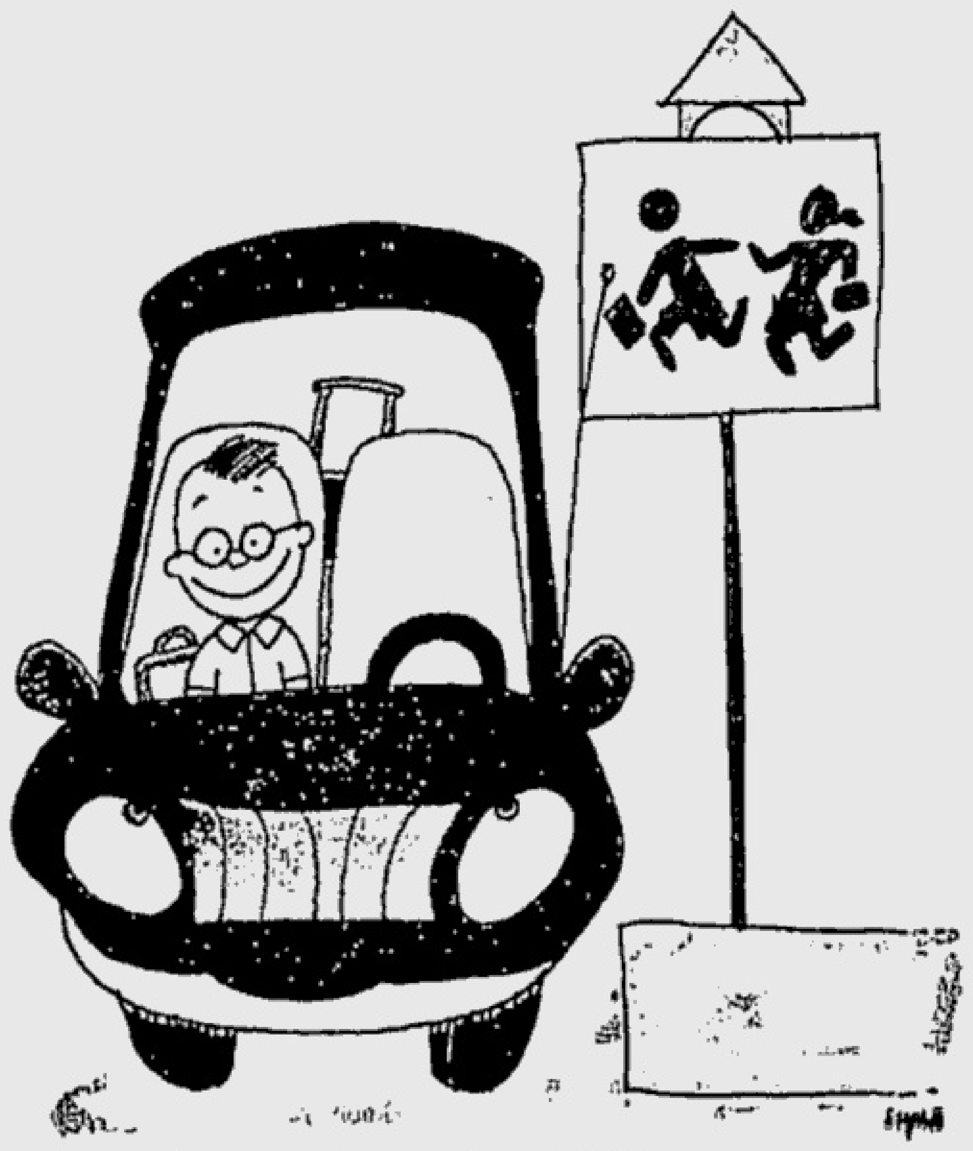


Mahal daw ako
nina Nanay at Tatay.
Ito raw ang lagi kong
dapat tandaan.



Si Nanay ang naghahatid
sa akin sa eskuwela.
Traysikel na makulay
ang aming sinasakyan.

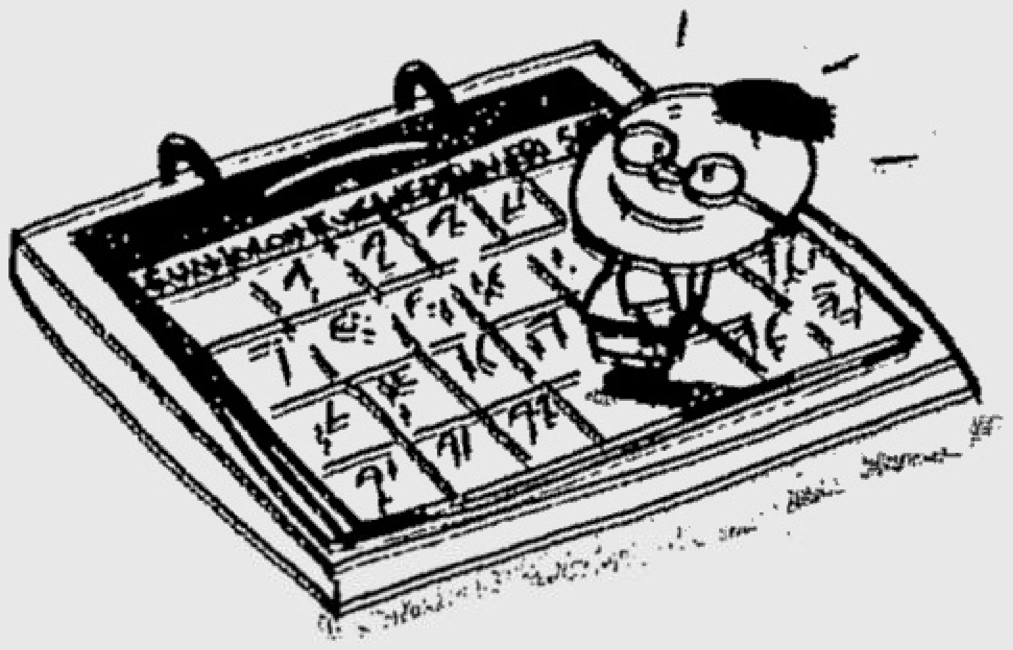
Si Tatay ang tagasundo
'pag oras na ng uwian.
Kotseng pulang matulin
ang aming sinasakyan.



Inaaral namin ni Nanay
ang mga leksyon tuwing umaga.
Kinukwentuhan niya ako
ng mga alamat at pabula.

Nagsisimba kami ni Tatay
tuwing Linggo nang umaga.
Tinuturuan niya akong
lumangoy at magpinta.

Mula Lunes hanggang Biyernes
kasama ko si Nanay.
Tuwing Sabado at Linggo
kasama ko si Tatay.



Tinanong ako minsan
ng isang kaeskwela:
Mahal ka ba talaga
ng 'yong Nanay at Tatay?
Bakit 'di mo sila sabay
na nakakasama?

Nalito ako,
napakamot ng ulo.
Nag-isip nang mabuti
hanggang ...

Aha! Oo nga, ano?!

Si Nanay at si Tatay
'di ko sabay na kasama
dahil meron akong
dalawang magkaibang bahay.

May isa 'kong bahay
na kasama si Nanay.
May isa 'kong bahay
na kasama si Tatay.

Maraming bintana
sa bahay namin ni Nanay.
Kulay asul ang mga upuan,
kulay dilaw ang mga unan.

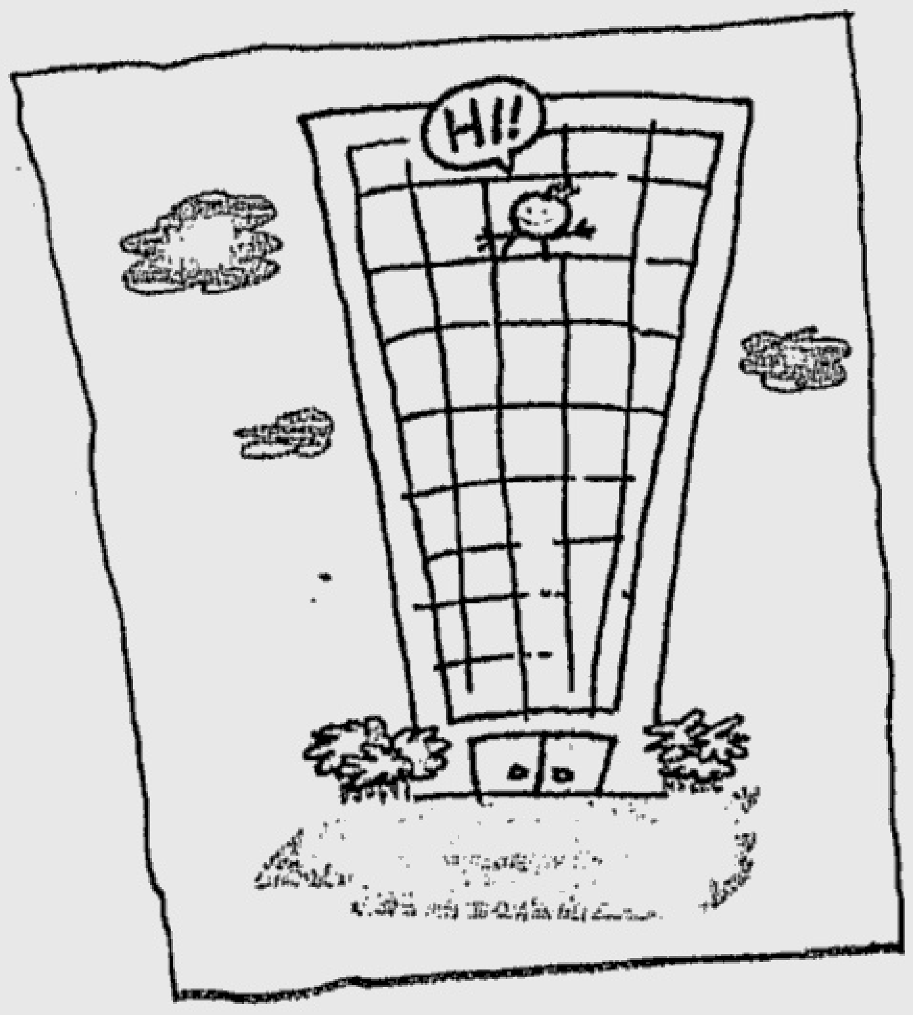
Punung-puno ng aklat
sari-saring hugis at sukat!
'Yung may mga drowing
ang lagi kong binubuklat.

Kwento ni Glen
Guhit ni S

*Si "**Glenda**" at si "Bong" ay iisang tao lamang bagaman hinahati niya ang kanyang panahon sa pagtuturo ng Panitikan*
*Si **Steph** ay panganay sa tatlong magkakapatid. Kasama niya sa bahay ang kanya*

Akong Bahay!

da Callanta Oris
eph Bravo



Nasa isang gusali
ang bahay namin ni Tatay.
Kulay itim ang upuan,
kulay puti ang mga unan.

Punung-puno ng krayola,
lapis at pintura!
"Watercolor" ang gamit ko
sa aking pagpinta.

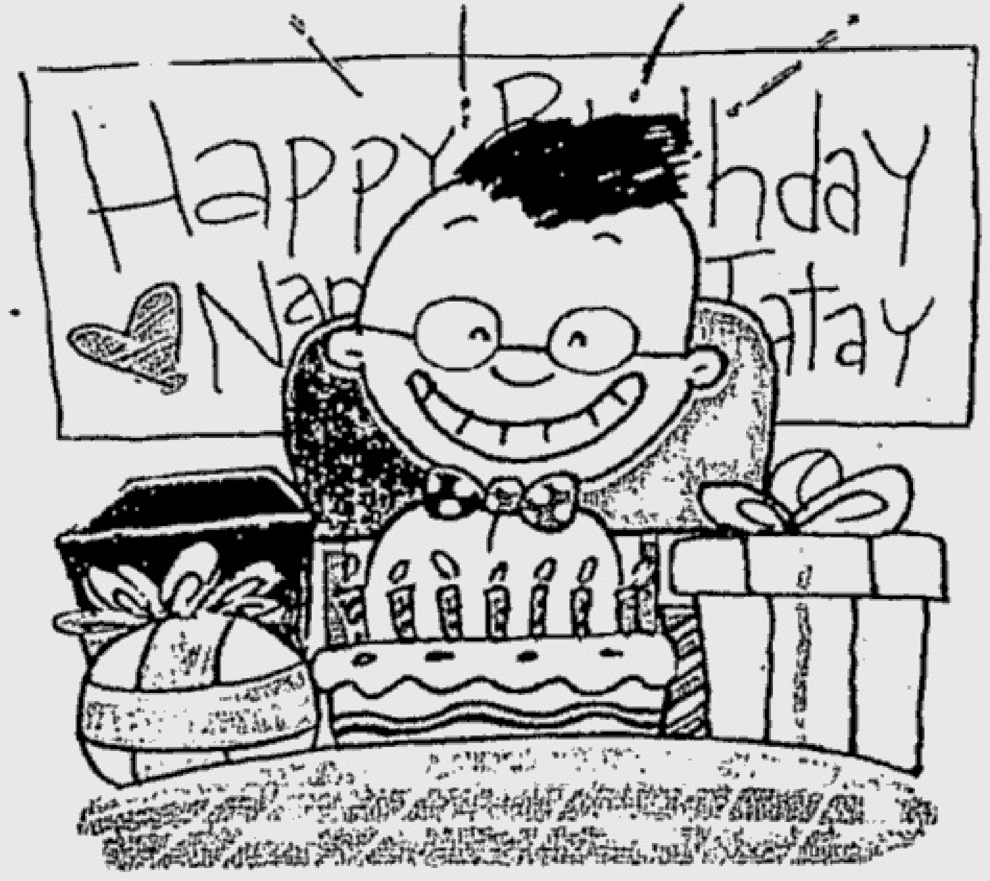
Naglalaro kami ni Tatay
ng mga kotse at manika.
Nanonood kami ng TV
kapag "cartoons" ang palabas.

Masaya ako
sa bahay namin ni Nanay.
Masaya ako
sa bahay namin ni Tatay.

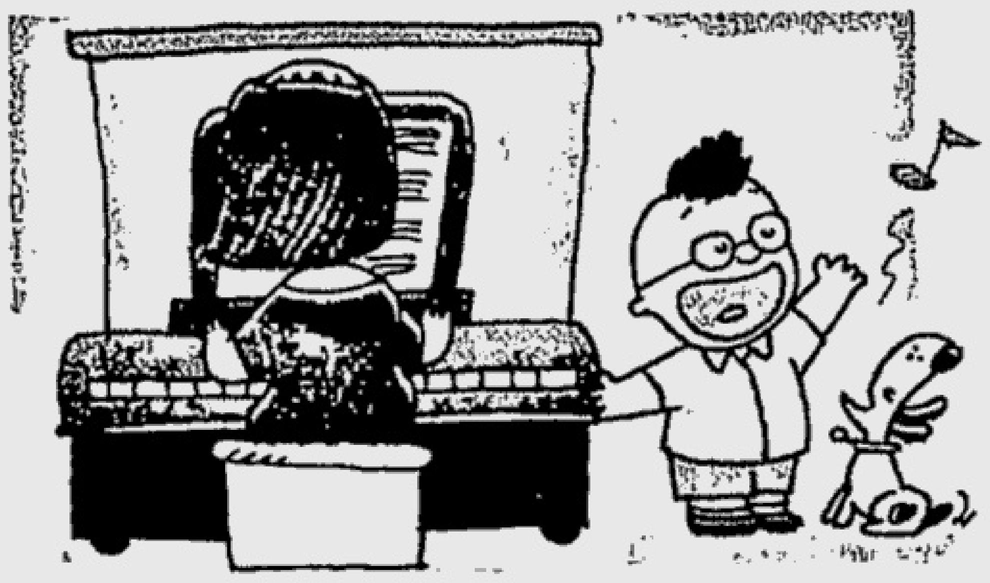
Pero napapagod ako
sa palipat-lipat —
minsan kay Nanay
minsan kay Tatay.

Di ako makapili
ng gusto kong araw at bahay.
May iskedyul daw kasi
sina Nanay at Tatay
Kailangan naming sundin
para walang magtampo,
magalit o mag-away.

Kahit gusto kong
lagi kaming magkakasama
Hindi raw puwede
Hindi raw nila magagawa.



Pero paminsan-minsan
sabay ko silang nakikita.
'Pag bertdey ko
tatlo kaming magkakasama.



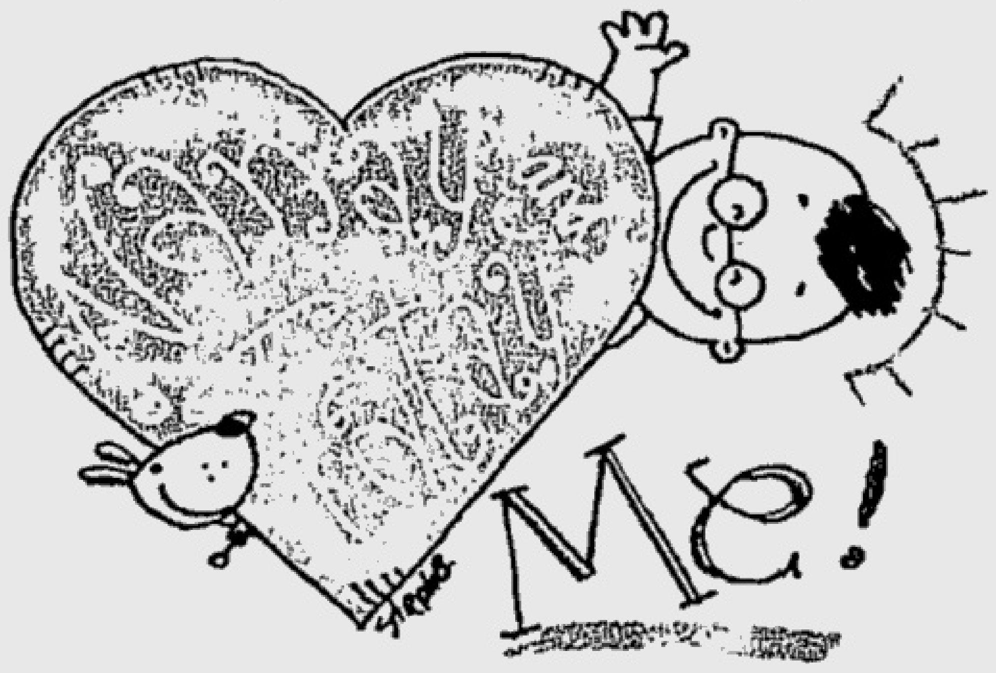
'Pag kumakanta ako
sa programa sa eskuwela,
nanonood sila
at pumapalakpak pa!

'Pag nagkakasakit ako,
inaatake ng hika,
nasa ospital silang dalawa
hanggang ako'y gumaling na.

Kahit 'di ko sila laging
sabay na nakakasama,
inaalagaan nila ako
at 'di pinababayaan.

Kaya ito ang sagot ko
sa aking kaeskuwela:
Maligaya ako
sa dalawa kong bahay.
Maligaya rin akong
kasama sina Nanay at Tatay.

Magkaiba't hiwalay man
ang dalawa kong bahay
alam kong mahal ako
ng aking Nanay at Tatay!



~Maraming salamat kay Miguel Luis
G. De Leon-gco~

ıt Pilosopiya sa Pamantasang Ateneo de Manila at sa pagiging kalihim ng Kuwentista ng mga Tsikiting (KUTING).
ng asong si Manuni at tatlong pusang sina Sammy, Pepper, at Muningning.

Being Thoughtful

Nothing dramatic about it: just water the plants, feed the dog and fix Dad a snack

by Eline Santos

YLAIJ Gideon Santos was named after the prophet Elijah and the warrior Gideon. His mom Liza says it's because they were grateful to have a boy after their three daughters, and decided to give Ylaij a Biblical name in thanksgiving.

Eight-year-old Ylaij has not set a bull on fire or vanquished a camp of Midianites like his namesake but he is a thoughtful kid. One of the nice things he did was prepare merienda for his dad and wash the dishes afterwards.

All of the Santos kids have household responsibilities. "I water the garden and alternate feeding the dog with my sister," Ylaij says. They have two pet dogs, Jag and Oreo.

He remembers their previous dog Doodle. "One time the maid gave him a bath. Doodle likes to lick his fur but she forgot to rinse him. After that, he got sick and died." Doodle is buried in the garden. "We also had two chicks. They're also buried there."

Ylaij likes to paint using poster color and loves arts and crafts.

"*Nauubos niya yung coupon bond, glue...*" eldest sister Rachelle attests.

Second-eldest sister Marian confirms it, "*...poster paint...kahapon naubos niya yung yellow*."

"Sorry," Ylaij apologizes.

"*Ginamit niya kasi sa pang-background 'yun*," youngest sister Charmi explains.

"He also writes poetry. Didn't you have that rain dance poem?" Rachelle asks him.

Unfortunately, the poem is stuck in the hard disk of a busted computer.

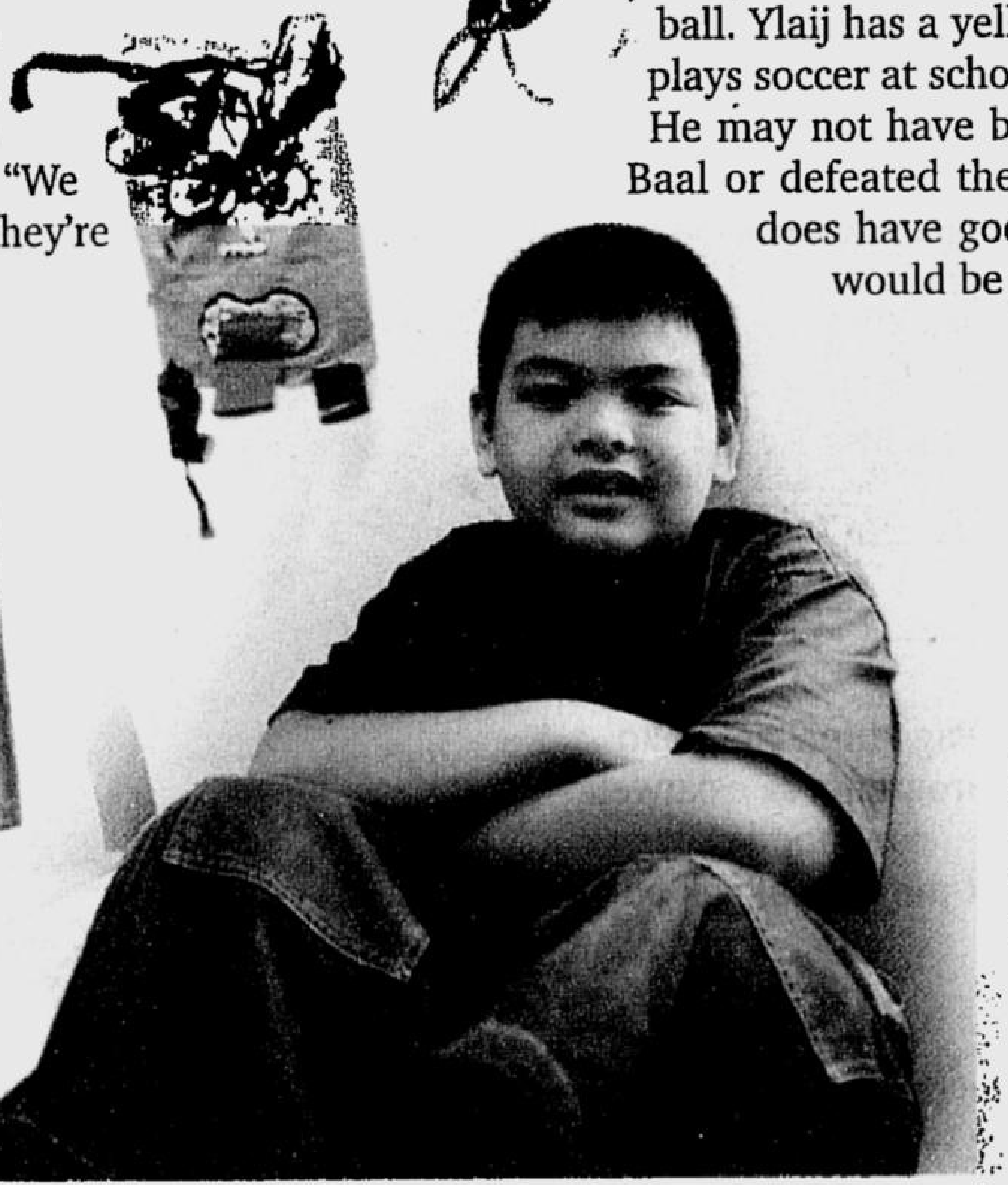
Ylaij can't recall how it went, but his sisters remember the first line, "Rain, rain, rain, makes me smile... something like that."

Last school year, Ylaij received the 8th honor from Don Bosco and got the top awards for conduct and christian living.

He also exercises with his Dad Wilfredo. They sometimes go swimming or play basketball. Ylaij has a yellow belt in taekwondo and plays soccer at school.

He may not have beaten the 450 prophets of Baal or defeated the Midianite army, but Ylaij does have good qualities his namesakes would be proud of.

Kids 'r' rrific



IN HIS COLORFUL ROOM. Ylaij and his sisters create beautiful masks together.

JOAN BONDOC

R U 'RRIFIC?

'Rrific kids are smart
'Rrific kids are fun
Some aren't in the honors list
But get their homework done

Somehow the world's
a better place
I know this much is true
Hey 'Rrific kid!
We know you're there
We love you 'cause you're you!

If you think you're 'Rrific' or know someone who is, fill out the the nomination form below and send it to:

Junior Inquirer
'KIDS'R'RRIFIC Page
Phil. Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces
cor. Yague & Mascardo Sts.
1231 Makati City

Chosen nominees will be featured on this page and will get a

FREE Junior Inquirer & CASIO EMI T-shirt, Plus! a chance to win a Keylighting keyboard!

Kids'r'rrific
nomination form

I nominate: ______________________

Age: ______________________

I think she's/he's 'Rrific because: (Here's a tip! Write a detailed description of a good deed, project or accomplishment by your nominee.)

She/he lives at ______________________

and studies at ______________________

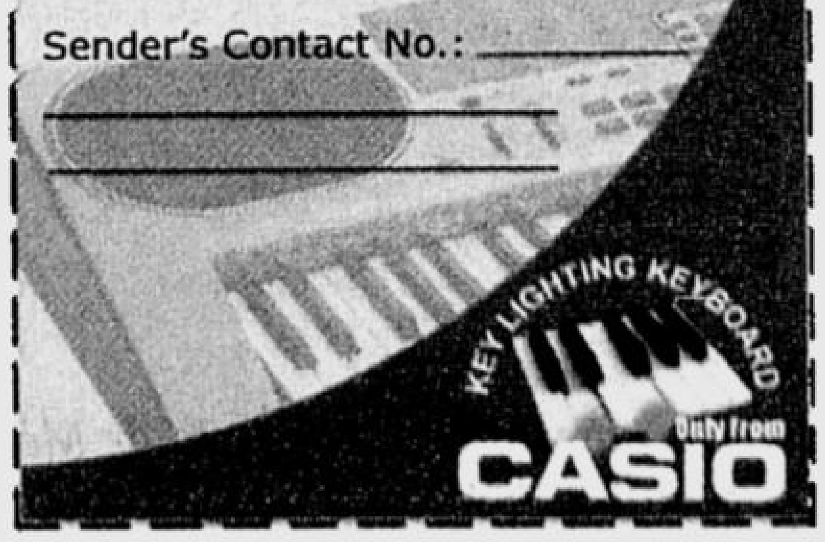
Her/his contact number is: ______________________

Sender's Name: ______________________

Sender's Age & School: ______________________

Sender's Address: ______________________

Sender's Contact No.: ______________________



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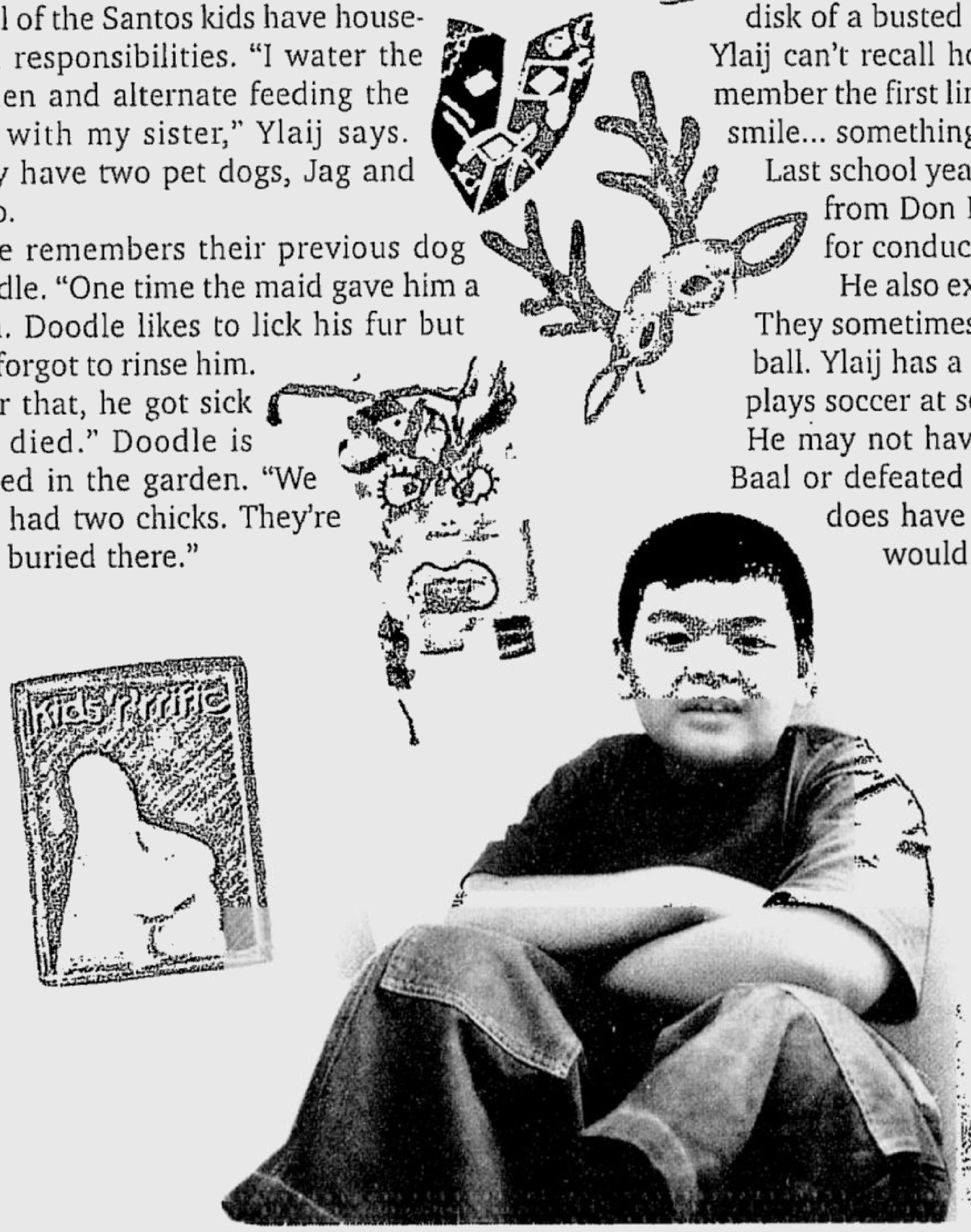

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____
____
Age: ____________________
I think she's/he's 'Rrific because: (Here's a tip! Write a detailed description of a good deed, project or accomplishment by your nominee.)
____
____
____
____
____
She/he lives at ____________________
____
____
and studies at ____________________
____
Her/his contact number is:
____
Sender's Name: ____________________
____
Sender's Age & School: ____________________
____
Sender's Address: ____________________
____
Sender's Contact No.: ____________________
____
____

CASIO

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The fantastic...

(from page 6)

A South Korean soccer fan cheers for his team as he waits for the second round of the World Cup Final match to start between South Korea and Italy in central Seoul on June 18, 2002. REUTERS

The Football team

A FOOTBALL team is divided into three lines.

The forwards form the first line, also known as the offensive line. This line usually starts with five players: a center forward, left and right inside forwards, (these three are often known as strikers) and left and right outside forwards (also called wings or wingers). Their main job is to put the ball into the other team's goal but they can also drop back to break up the opposing team's attacks.

The second line is made up of three midfielders (also known as halfbacks or linkmen): a left, a center, and a right midfielder. They help in the offense and defense.

The last line of defense is maintained by two defenders labeled fullbacks. They seldom score and have to remain back in front of their team's goalkeeper. Fullbacks must take the ball from the attacking team and pass it to a midfielder who will then pass it to the attackers.

The goalkeeper (usually called a goalie) guards the goal. He must not stray away and must move quickly to block shots by the opposing team. The goalie is the only player who may touch the ball with his hands and arms.

The fantastic/ p. 13

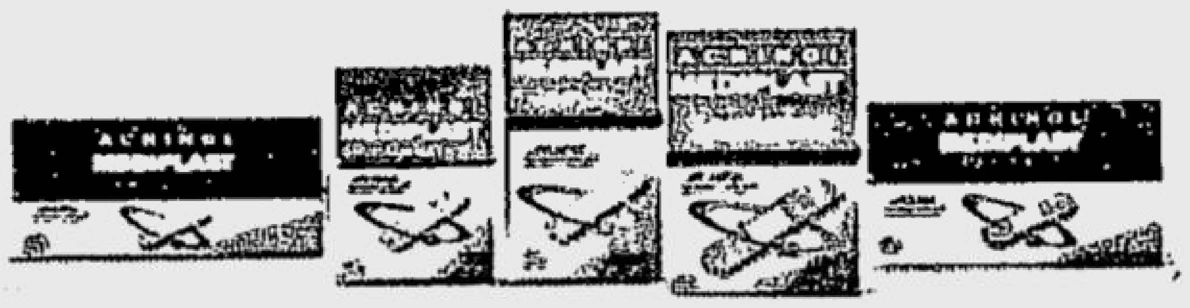
Ang batang nasusugatan,
maya-maya lang laro na naman.
'Buti na lang may Mediplast Plastic Strips.
Bilis-galing sa Mediplast.

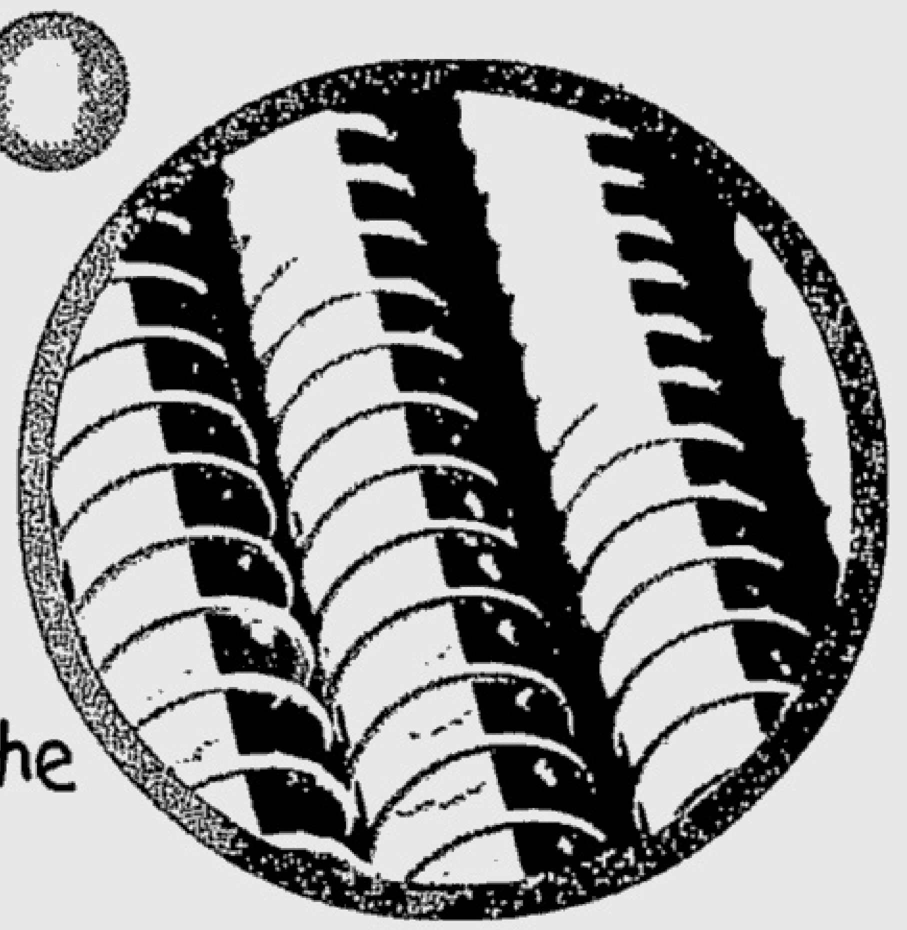
MEDIPLAST®
First-Aid Line

BILIS-GALING SA MEDIPLAST

Exclusively distributed by
PHILUSA CORPORATION
28 Shaw Blvd., Pasig City

Available in all Mercury Drugstores, supermarkets, leading drugstores & groceries nationwide.



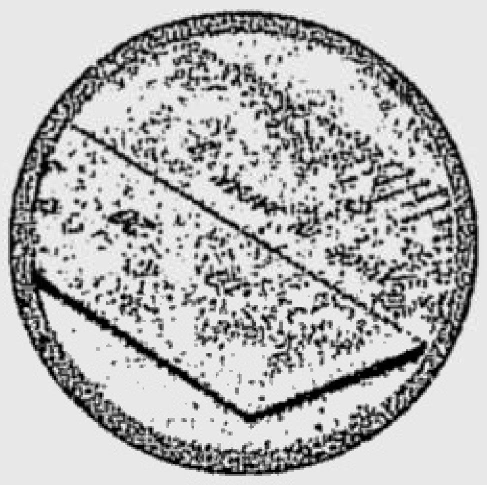


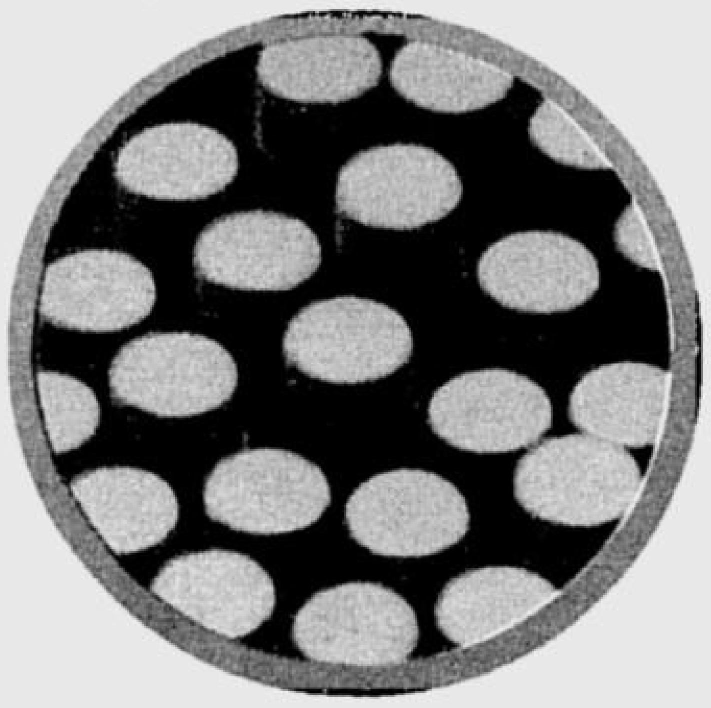
Get set for
school and get
a chance to win in the

Junior
INQUIRER

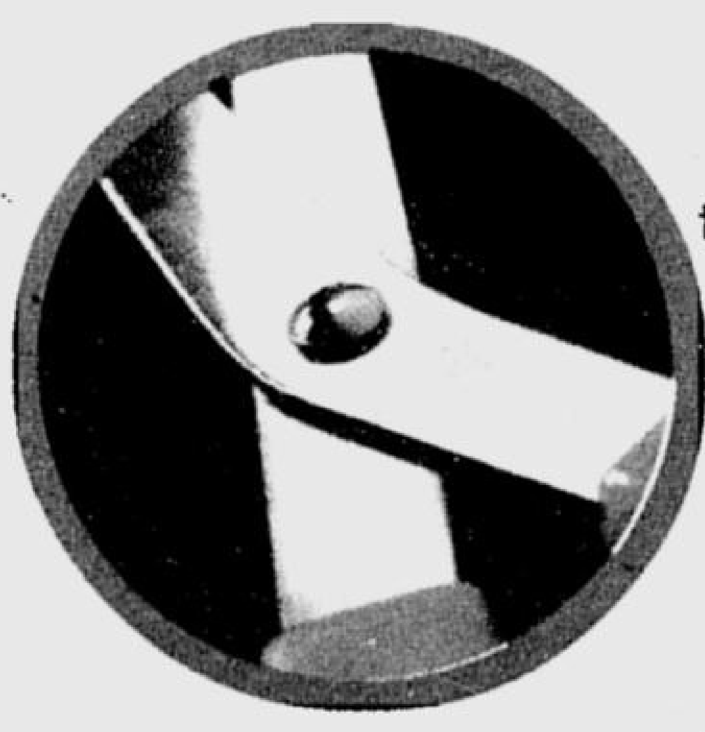
SCHOOL CLUES

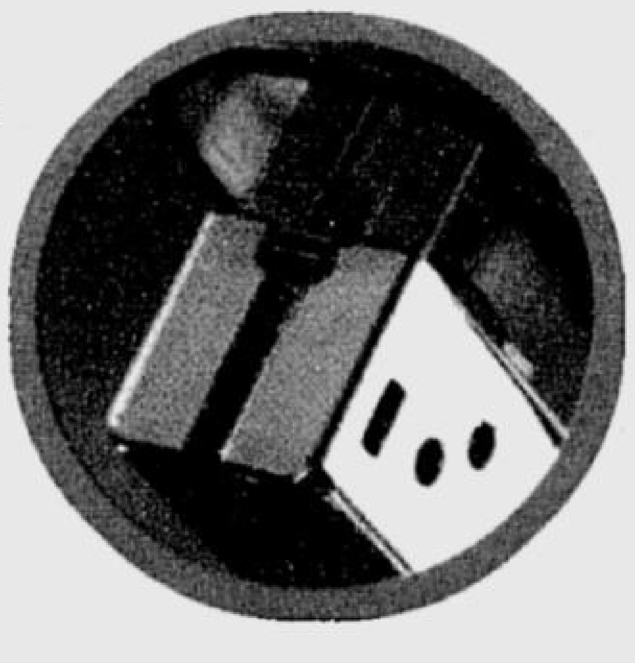
RAFFLE





Attention students 5 to 12 years old! Want to win cool school stuff? Then here's your assignment: look for clues scattered in the pages of the Junior Inquirer issues on June 22, 29 and July 6 and guess the different school supplies described by the clues. Collect all 9 clues and send them to us in an envelope along with a piece of paper with your name, address, telephone number, birthday and signature for a chance to win neat prizes in our back-to-school raffle on July 15.





PROMO MECHANICS:

1. The promotion is open to children 5 to 12 years old. For three (3) consecutive issues, starting June 22, 29 & July 6, 2002, three (3) School Clues will be hidden in the pages of the Junior Inquirer.
2. Look for the clues and answer each clue correctly.
3. Collect all nine (9) clues that will come out in the three (3) issues published within the promo duration (June 22, 29 & July 6) and on a piece of paper, write your name, address, tel no., affix your signature and date of birth and put inside a white legal size envelope and mail to School Clues c/o Junior Inquirer, Philippine Daily Inquirer Chino Roces cor. Yague & Mascardo Sts., 1231 Makati City.
4. This serves as a single official entry to the raffle draw during which the following prizes shall be given away: Ten (10) winners will each receive a School Gift Pack (notebooks, pencil case, crayola, ruler, eraser, sharpener). Only entries with correct answers for all nine (9) clues are considered valid.
5. Entries must be received by 5:00 pm of July 12, 2002 to qualify for the raffle draw.
6. An individual may send more than one entry but can only win once in the raffle draw.
7. The raffle draw will be held on July 15, 2002 at 3:00 pm at the Philippine Daily Inquirer office in the presence of an official DTI representative.
8. Raffle prizes are not convertible to cash.
9. Raffle draw winners will be notified by phone and registered mail and their names will be announced via print ads.
10. Winners can claim their prizes at the Philippine Daily Inquirer office upon presentation of the notification letter and a valid ID (school ID or passport).
11. Raffle prizes not claimed within 60 days from receipt of notification will be forfeited in favor of Philippine Daily Inquirer with prior approval from DTI.
12. Employees and staff of Philippine Daily Inquirer, their advertising agency and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.
13. Promo is valid only in GMA.

Arts & Crafts

Crayola
CRAYONS

MONGOL for kids
Perfect Wood Pencil for
young beginners

PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 2436 SERIES OF 2002

The fantastic... (from page 11)

How to be a football fan

1. Learn the game

Of course, you can't like something you know nothing about. So you've first got to find out what the game football is all about.

2. Choose your team

Once you think you know a little about football, you can begin choosing your team. It may be your home team, the team of someone you know or your country's team.

3. Look for other fans

It's not fun being a fan if you don't have other fans to cheer with you. So look for other fans you can be friends with. Or, you can look for someone who simply likes watching football.

4. Get to know the signs and symbols

It's important to know the colors your favorite team is carrying, or if it is a national team, then the colors of your country. You can use symbols of your country or hometown. You can wear these colors or use them to paint your face.

5. Be a real fan

Cheer your team on no matter what happens. Do not abandon the team even when it loses. For most fans, choosing a team is a lifetime commitment. Don't forget to cheer, scream, jump up and down, wave your arms, whenever your team is on the offensive. You will have to cry too when your team loses. But always remember, you have to have fun.

A Sweden supporter (left) shouts after his country's team lost its World Cup Finals match to Senegal in Oita June 16, 2002. REUTERS

A Belgian soccer fan follows the WC soccer game of Belgium versus Brazil on a giant screen on the Grand Place in Brussels, June 17, 2002. AP

ICE CREAM
Nestlé
KIMY™
WINNERS
Stay Cool!
Congratulations!

WINNERS OF COOL GADGETS:
Elmer Sottomayor, Peter Paul Siobal, Asher Niel Hernandez, Shiela Camba, Adrian Sebastian, Maricel Salvatierra, Dommador Alfonte, Louie Millong, Ronald Cruz, Pamela Jimenez, Sharon Saltan Emily Joy de Guzman, Ricardo Felix Panganiban, Kristian Bernard Galo, Rodel Silverio, Isabell Rico, Adrian Ablao, Ledger Bajala, Raymundo Guarin, James Magundayao, Ronaldo Antonio, Jhon Lance Paulo Rivera, Sanny Salendron, Dennis Evangelista, Nelson Fermista, Juliet Oropa, Bernardo Armano, Roy Christiano Salalima, Marcelino de Guzman, Alyssa Aguila

WINNERS OF 3310s:
Leo Silverio, Lilibeth Sabile, Armando Diorisio Jr., Regina Moscoso, Joslito Mendoza, Armando Madriga, Jeannete Malapad, Danica Anne Uy, Stephanie Honey Ivan Labudahon, Mika Patricia Pangilinan, Riza May Gamba, Hazelynn Domalanta, Gemma Lamsen, Mandelilo Buenaventura, Arian Michelline Domingo

¿Thinkathon?
BY BONG BARRAMEDA

In Memory of June

THE month June was named in honor of Juno, the Roman queen of the gods and goddess of marriage (thus the June bride). When it comes to historic events, we quickly associate this month with the birth of Philippine independence (1898) and Jose Rizal (1861). But what else do you know of June? Let's find out.

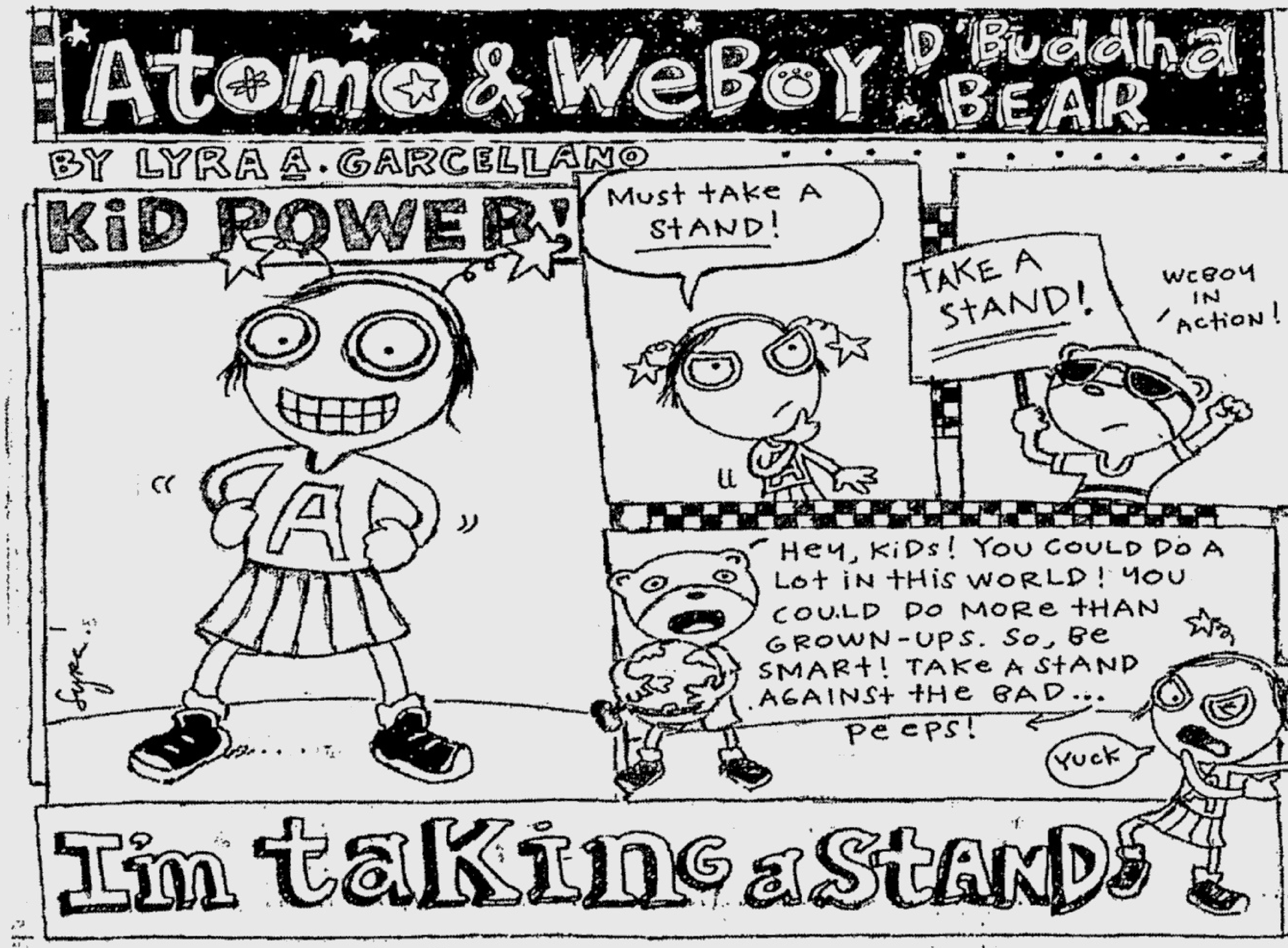
1. Who became first Spanish governor-general of the Philippines on June 21, 1569?
2. The Korean War erupted on June 25, 1950, after Communist troops crossed the dividing line between North and South Korea which is known as the-
   - o 15th Parallel
   - o 38th Parallel
   - o 50th Parallel
3. What historic first did Valentina Tereshkova of the Soviet Union achieve on June 16, 1963, aboard Vostok 6?
4. Who became the first boxer to regain the world heavyweight title by knocking out Sweden's Ingemar Johansson on June 20, 1960?
   - o Cassius Clay
   - o Floyd Patterson
   - o Rocky Marciano
5. The University of the Phippines was founded on June 18 of what year?
   - o 1908
   - o 1920
   - o 1936
6. Which president declared Tagalog as one of the official languages (along with English) of the Philippines on June 7, 1940?
7. Which album, released on June 1, 1967, is the No. 1-selling Beatles album of all time?
   - o Abbey Road
   - o Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band
   - o Let It Be
8. Who was named Most Valuable Player of the 1st PBA All-Star Game on June 4, 1989?
   - o Samboy Lim
   - o Ramon Fernandez
   - o Elmer Cabahug
9. Which Italian-born physicist invented the wireless telegraph on June 2, 1896?
10. Which famous character did American teenagers Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster create for Action Comics on June 30, 1938?
    - o Superman
    - o Batman
    - o Captain America
11. What important element did Polish scientist Marie Curie and her husband Pierre discover on June 25, 1903?
12. Which chieftain lost Manila to Spanish forces led by Martin de Goiti in the Battle of Bangkusay on June 3, 1571?

Answers :

1. Miguel Lopez de Legazpi
2. 38th Parallel
3. She became the first woman in space.
4. Floyd Patterson
5. 1908
6. Manuel L. Quezon
7. Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band
8. Elmer Cabahug
9. Guglielmo Marconi
10. Superman
11. Radium
12. Rajah Sulayman

Ratings :

superbrain!
excellent!
good!

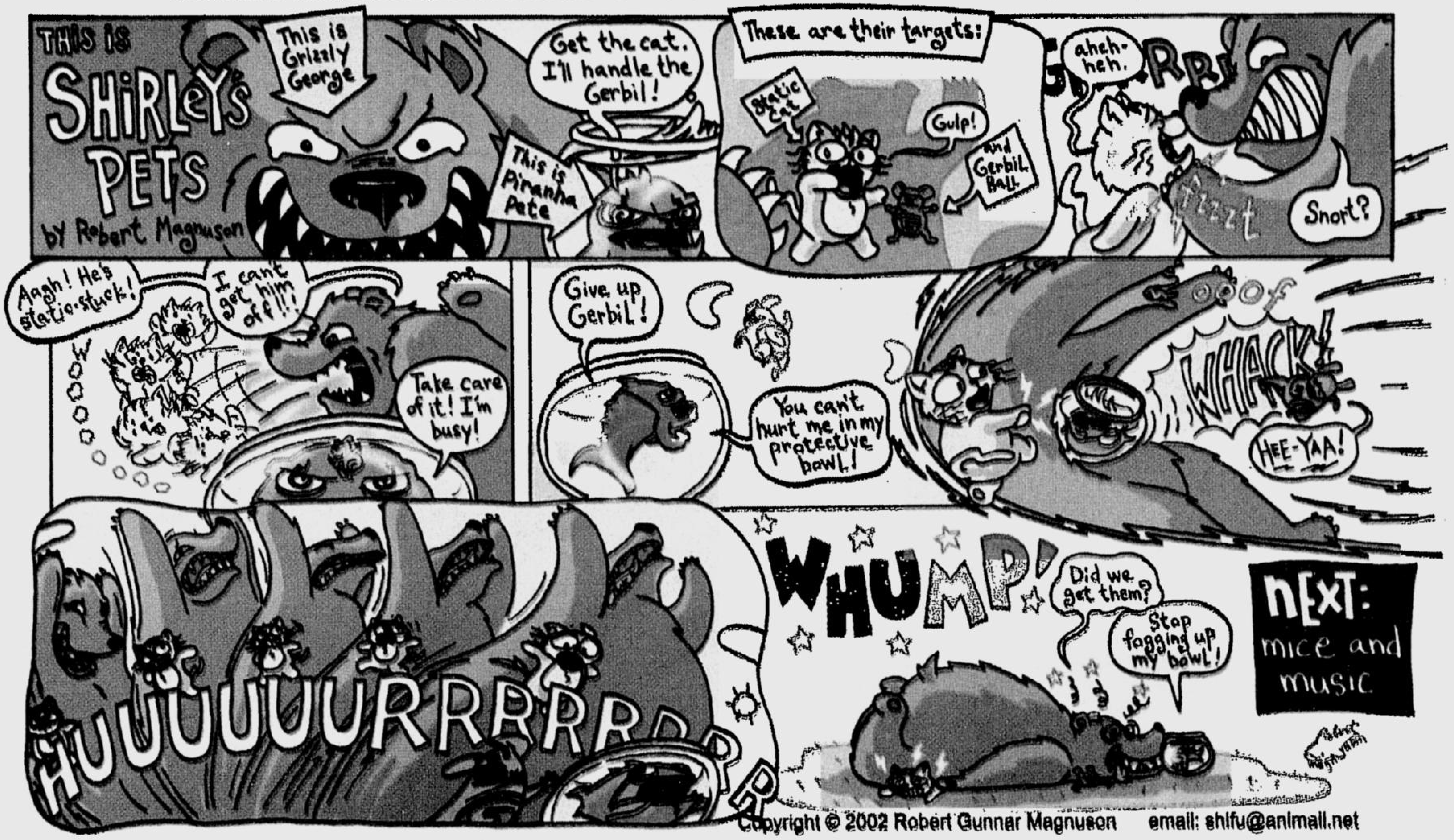

Atomo & WeBoY D'Buddha BEAR
BY LYRA A. GARCELLANO
KiD POWER!
Must take A StAND!
TAKE A STAND!
WEBOY IN ACTION!
Hey, KiDs! You could Do A Lot in this world! You could do more than grown-ups. So, Be smart! Take a stand against the bad... peeps!
Yuck
I'm taKing a StAND

A	L	I	K	N	O	U	D	Y	L
P	O	L	L	U	T	E	R	S	A
C	B	L	E	J	M	T	U	M	Z
D	A	E	I	C	S	X	G	O	Y
H	N	G	F	H	V	Z	P	K	B
P	I	A	G	E	A	B	U	E	U
R	M	L	Q	A	C	D	S	B	T
A	A	L	W	T	F	I	H	E	T
D	L	O	E	E	G	N	E	L	S
D	A	G	H	R	O	P	R	C	K
I	B	G	P	S	R	S	S	H	L
C	U	E	J	K	L	T	U	E	P
T	S	R	B	E	Q	V	A	R	N
S	E	S	M	A	R	T	B	S	R
E	R	W	X	Y	Z	C	D	I	T
F	S	N	A	T	C	H	E	R	S
B	E	K	I	N	D	G	H	J	U
L	I	T	T	E	R	B	U	G	S
M	Q	S	O	V	W	X	Y	Z	A

DON'T BE LIKE THESE PEOPLE! (FIND THESE WORDS)

LAZYBUTTS
SNATCHERS
POLLUTANTS
CHEATERS
ANIMAL ABUSERS
DRUG PUSHERS
SMOKE BELCHERS
ILLEGAL LOGGERS
ADDICTS
LITTERBUGS

Last Episode: Little John has become a junior member of the animal heores. Sinatra Therese has "borrowed" Little John's membership ring. Meanwhile, a rival group has gathered secret information on the neighborhood animal-heroes. Now they are ready to strike...


THIS IS
SHIRLEY'S PETS
by Robert Magnuson
This is Grizzly George
Get the cat. I'll handle the Gerbil!
This is Piranha Pete
These are their targets:
Static Cat
Gulp!
and Gerbil Ball
ahen-heh.
GRRR
Fzzzt
Snort?
Aagh! He's static-stuck!
I can't get him off!!
Take care of it! I'm busy!
Give up Gerbil!
You can't hurt me in my protective bowl!
ooof
WHACK!
HEE-YAA!
HUUUUUURRRRRRRR
WHUMP!
Did we get them?
Stop fogging up my bowl!
NEXT: mice and music

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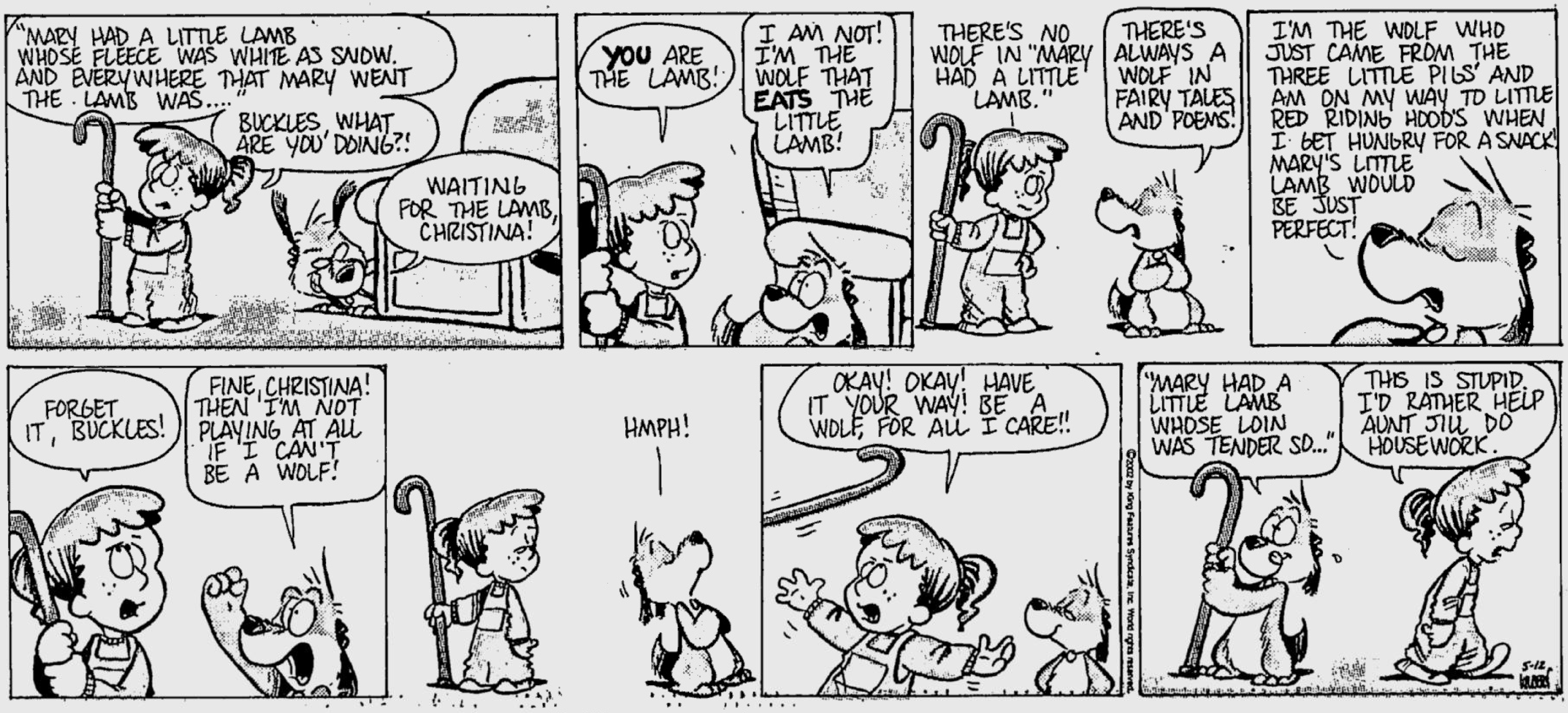
BUCKLES

BY DAVID GILBERT


"MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB WHOSE FLEECE WAS WHITE AS SNOW. AND EVERYWHERE THAT MARY WENT THE LAMB WAS...."
BUCKLES, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
WAITING FOR THE LAMB, CHRISTINA!
YOU ARE THE LAMB!
I AM NOT! I'M THE WOLF THAT EATS THE LITTLE LAMB!
THERE'S NO WOLF IN "MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB."
THERE'S ALWAYS A WOLF IN FAIRY TALES AND POEMS!
I'M THE WOLF WHO JUST CAME FROM THE THREE LITTLE PIGS' AND AM ON MY WAY TO LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD'S WHEN I GET HUNGRY FOR A SNACK! MARY'S LITTLE LAMB WOULD BE JUST PERFECT!
FORGET IT, BUCKLES!
FINE, CHRISTINA! THEN I'M NOT PLAYING AT ALL IF I CAN'T BE A WOLF!
HMPH!
OKAY! OKAY! HAVE IT YOUR WAY! BE A WOLF, FOR ALL I CARE!!
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"MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB WHOSE LOIN WAS TENDER SO..."
THIS IS STUPID. I'D RATHER HELP AUNT JILL DO HOUSEWORK.
5-12

It's Pack-to-School!
SCHOOL
Nestlé Chocolate Milk Drink
I'm off to school with my best buddy!
Nestlé Chocolate Milk Drink

Nestlé Chocolate Milk Drink. My Chuckie Choco! It's packed with healthy stuff like vitamins. And it's packed with chocolate goodness and lots of Chuckie fun! So tuck a Chuckie Choco pack in your schoolbag. It's amazingly chocolatey!